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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

KING VICTOR EMMANUEL has shown a wisdom in council quite equal to his gallantry in the field, and well worthy of his illustrious family. A false step would not only injure himself, but, what he probably fears more, would damage the cause of Italy. But the King acts discreetly. He intimates to deputations offering him crowns that he is sensible of the honour and prepared for the responsibility, but that the affair does not rest with him alone. By this mode of proceeding he *forces* (so to speak) a good card, a generous card, into the hands of Napoleon; for how can the French Emperor betray a confidence so unaffectedly reposed in him? He it was who gave the people of Central Italy those opportunities; he it was who put the King in this position of vantage; he is the master of the situation. Will he cruelly undo his own work, or shabbily allow that work to be undone by other persons?

The Conferences, meanwhile, appear to have achieved but little; and we shall have some time to wait before things get definitively settled. There are signs that Austria wavers on the point of the Dukes; and we are told that if she could feel herself secure from Sardinian "intrigues" in Italy she would give the unlucky potentates up. Now, Sardinia might safely secure his Majesty of Austria against what he fears under the name of "intrigues," if the people of Central Italy were only allowed their own way. There would be nothing to "intrigue" for in Italy if that were brought about; but under the old system, which made the Dukes mere vassals of Austria, a counter-movement was absolutely necessary. Sardinia naturally represented that, for her monarch is an Italian Prince. Modena, on the other hand, is a cadet of the Lorraine-Hapsburgh family, with a thread of the Este blood in him, to be sure, but which no more avails to make him feel like an Italian than his similar thread of Stuart blood makes him feel like a Scotchman. By all means let Sardinia disclaim intrigues, and let the wishes of the Central-Italian population be carried out. The first hitch will probably come from the Pope's side, rather than from the Austrian; but we look to the Italians themselves to give a good account of his mercenaries, and they may be sure that all England will rejoice if they send them rolling back in blood.

The probability of a Congress strengthens among all these uncertainties. It is a very obvious suggestion, but it is not so easy to see on what footing the Powers are to enter which took no part in the war. If they agree to accept the general terms broached at the Peace of Villafranca, involving the return of the Dukes, which can only be achieved by force, England ought either to keep out of the affair, or to accept the choice of the Italians of their own Government, as a necessary basis of everything else.

The Continental papers keep amusing themselves by discussing all the delicate questions about the future that can possibly arise between England and France. We regret the fact, but

has its utility, as preventing our public from going to sleep *more suo* on the subject. Meanwhile, what is our astonishment to hear—after the formal announcement in the *Moniteur* about reductions—that "the building of more frigates," and those iron-plated ones, is going on in France! Why, it is precisely in frigates that France has had the advantage over us of late years, an advantage deliberately sought on account of their utility against a commercial marine! There must be some mistake in this statement, which yet has been made on very good authority, or else we are more bamboozled by the French

one sees in reading their papers; and his Majesty has it thus in his power (so long as we have no fixed policy of defence) to procure a cheap luxury to his friends the masses.

Home politics are deplorably dull. The regular autumnal recess speeches have not yet begun. Our best politicians, like the partridges, are very "wild" just now; and there is no getting at them for any expression of opinion or declaration of policy.

Smethurst's case has set people discussing the question of juries. If the decisions of juries are not to be final what ought to be? There is a great deal of sense in the remark that it is dangerous to leave it to the Home Secretary to unsettle verdicts at his discretion; and we are inclined to think well of the suggestion that he ought to be able, in cases like that which has given rise to these inquiries, to get (in conjunction with some of the Judges) a new trial, before all the Judges, for the convicted man. As for Smethurst himself, the obvious remark is that, as the Crown is not satisfied of his guilt, he ought not to receive any punishment which could be interpreted as a modified punishment for *murder*. But the sooner he is brought to justice for his other offences the better.

The "strike" bids fair to run to extremes. Argument on the general principles would now be superfluous—it would be thrown away. All impartial men see that if labourers are to settle how much money they are to get for working as many hours as they happen to find agreeable there is an end of all peace, security, and prosperity in trade. And moderate men regret that the masters by their "document" should have forced the workmen into a struggle for that very right to combine which these same masters are exercising in bringing the "document" forward. But the affair has passed, apparently, out of the domains of argument into that of war—a war not less mischievous and painful than would be one carried on on the old physical-force principles. Well, perhaps war, which is an ugly but effectual way of getting a decision, is better than mere partial reasoning, garnished with abuse, on one side or the other. But while the belligerents suffer society suffers. The interruption of the trade—the loss of so much work to England—is a dead loss, as much as if a portion of the harvest had been burnt. After all, civilisation, we see, has not blotted out some of the worst evils of barbarism; for to do as much harm to each other as possible, without regard to the convenience of anybody else, is all that two rival tribes of Britain could have done when quarrelling two thousand years ago.

The spectacle may prepare us for the consequences of these class hatreds and misunderstandings by-and-by, when population gets still denser, and competition severer; when some accident of commerce disturbs existing arrangements; and when foreign questions (as they inevitably will) arise to aggravate the concurrent evils. We shall have a great deal of talk about social science in a few weeks; but phenomena like this "strike" seem to show that little is yet known of the very elements of the subject.



CAPTAIN HARRISON, COMMANDER OF THE GREAT EASTERN STEAM-SHIP.

CAPTAIN HARRISON. OF THE GREAT EASTERN.

It is quite safe to say that the main subject of interest at the present moment is the Great Eastern steam-ship, and, in connection with it, our readers will no doubt be glad to be told something of the history, antecedents, and qualifications of the experienced seaman to whose skill and judgment the great ship, with her immense passenger and stowage accommodations, is henceforth to be confided. At a very early age Captain Harrison, whose nautical predilections were absolutely irrepressible, selected, in a somewhat self-willed manner, the profession he has ever since followed. He was afterwards apprenticed in regular course, and that the man was cut out by nature to command ships rather than to serve in them may be gathered from the remarkable fact that before he was out of his time he was captain of a vessel. It was in the East and West Indies, and on the coast of South America, that the earlier years of his career were passed. Here for some eight years he was in command of freetraders, sailing-ships; and, in the course of the numerous squabbles among the rival Powers in the last-named region, was more than once in action, handling his ship on all occasions as a good officer and courageous man. Subsequently to this period he went into the service of the Cunard line of Atlantic steamers, and continued in this position for the fifteen years immediately preceding his engagement with the Eastern Navigation (now the Great Ship) Company. During this period he successively commanded the following well-known vessels:—Acadia, Britannia, Hibernia, Cambria, America, Africa, and Arabia; and it was during this period that he acquired his great celebrity as an Atlantic navigator; and when it is recollect that during the earlier portion of the time indicated every Cunard steamer crossed the ocean ten times, and during the latter portion no less than fourteen times, a year, it will be readily understood how Captain Harrison's voyages to and from England and America number something over one hundred and eighty. He says himself, "I counted up to one hundred and fifty-seven, and then left off." Many anecdotes are current, all bearing on his natural skill, acquired experience, complete self-possession, and ready presence of mind. Of these we call to mind one of the most apposite. Leaving New York once after the prevalence of heavy southwest gales, which had silted up the bar to the extent of a foot or two, and the Africa, of which ship he was then in command, being very deeply laden, the vessel touched the bar as she was passing over it. The pilot in charge called out instantly to "stop her." Our readers should be at once nautical men and commercial men to appreciate fully the nature of the calculations which in one second of time it was necessary for the captain to make. They may be explained as something of this kind—"We are on the bar now, and if we stop the chances are a hundred to one that the ship is a total wreck in a few hours, but all the insurances will be safe; on the other hand, if I jam her across I shall save the ship but by taking her out of the pilot's hands, shall avoid the insurances." The result was that within a tenth of the time occupied in writing the above these calculations had been all made, and "Go on ahead, full speed!" was the order; the ship touched twice more, but was brought safely across, and came into port strong and sound.

It was during his command on the Cunard line that some of the gentlemen connected with the direction of the Great Ship, and also with that of the Grand Trunk line in Canada, having frequent occasion to cross the Atlantic, had opportunities of observing the abilities of Captain Harrison, and the result was an overture to take charge of the Leviathan then building. This overture involved the instalment of the captain as from November, 1855; but certain honourable considerations, highly creditable to him and bearing on understandings between him and his employers, induced him to postpone the engagement, and on the last day of the year 1855 his engagement with the Cunard line ceased, and with the year 1856 that with the Great Eastern began, since which time, and certainly during the launch, and during the last two or three months—at any rate long before the ship was out of the contractor's hands—one of the hardest-worked men on board has been the captain. The mere ordinary routine of a vessel of such bewildering size one would have supposed enough and more than enough for any sea-captain going; but, when one adds to this the frequent confidences of directors and other officials, the unceasing inquiries of the gentlemen connected with the press, the thousand and one small botherations of small visitors thinking themselves great ones, and the everlasting undercurrent of silly chatter inflicted by the thousands of other visitors who all seemed to consider the captain as merely put there to answer foolish questions, one's only wonder is that either the man's brain or his urbanity has not given way.

We may add that Captain Harrison is in the very prime of a singularly vigorous manhood, a little more than midway between forty and fifty; his eye quick, sharp, and penetrating; his head, voice, and general bearing denoting rapid perception and quick determination; his manner remarkably straightforward, honest, and courteous, even for a sailor. Taking him all in all, there is, perhaps, no man living to whom the great speculation could have been so judiciously intrusted—no man who can more confidently say to his passengers, as the "Damsel bright and bold of eye" said to Thalaba,

I know the ocean paths;—
Wilt thou go on with me?

COST OF THE CRIMEAN WAR TO RUSSIA.—General Sattler, who was intendant of the Russian army in the Crimea, has just published in the *Advertiser* an account of the provisioning of the Russian army during the late war. It appears from this that the Russian troops in the Crimea, at the commencement of the war amounted to 250,000 men, with 100,000 horses, and those of all the troops for whom the intendance had to furnish provisions during 1855 were 845,000 men, with 187,300 horses; and for 1856 796,973 men, with 183,570 horses. The intendance had to contend with immense difficulties, the price of cattle, provender, and all kinds of necessaries having increased fivefold, and oftentimes more than tenfold, particularly from the middle of 1855 until January, 1856.

AFFAIRS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.—Papers relative to the affairs of British Columbia (part 2), being copies of despatches from the Governor of British Columbia to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and from the Secretary of State to the Governor, relative to the government of the colony, were presented to Parliament on the 12th ultimo, and now appear in print. Her Majesty has decided that the capital of British Columbia shall be called "New Westminster." The policy to be observed towards the Indian native tribes will be a fostering and protective one, care being taken in laying out and defining the several reserves so as to avoid checking, at a future day, the progress of the white colonists. Governor Douglas appears to have complained to the Colonial Office of the inadequacy of his official salary. The Earl of Carnarvon, in the absence of the Secretary of State, wrote on the 23rd of May last to the Governor, admitting that his emoluments had been fixed at too low a rate, and announcing his readiness to sanction an addition to his salary of £1200 out of the local receipts of the current year, provided that the revenue of British Columbia amounted in the aggregate to not less than £50,000. This addition can on no account be made otherwise than from colonial resources.

STEALING CUPS FROM A DRINKING-FOUNTAIN.—Mr. Marmaduke Langdale, who has recently caused to be erected in Endell-street, St. Giles's, a drinking fountain for the use of the public of the district, has waited upon Mr. Henry at the Bow-street Police Court to make complaint that, during his absence from town, the water had ceased to flow, and the cups, chains, gratings, &c., had been stolen, although much force must have been used to wrench them off. For days the public were deprived of its use, but now he had caused fresh cups and still stronger chains to be attached, and the water was again flowing. His object in addressing the magistrate was to beg that the police on duty there might be requested occasionally to keep an eye on the fountain, for really these depredations were very discouraging, and, if repeated, would put a stop to private gifts of this sort altogether. Mr. Henry was sorry to hear of such occurrences, and would mention the subject to the police, although of course it would be impossible to place a constable on duty at every fountain in London. A gentleman in Court stated that he frequently passed the fountain in question, and had noticed a large concourse of disorderly boys playing with the water, and making a great noise on the pavement, but no constable was ever seen near to interfere with them. It was a district where a constable might always be profitably employed within sight of the fountain, and it would cost a very little extra trouble to clear the pavement of the ragged urchins and idlers who congregated there, and often prevented decent people from drinking the water.

It is stated from Berhampore that Lieut.-Colonel Mackenzie has had an attack of *coup de soleil*. Thirteen of the mutineers of the 5th Europeans are to be tried by court-martial. The detachment of her Majesty's 99th is expected shortly to return to Calcutta.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

THE KING of the Belgians is expected at Biarritz on the 10th. King Leopold's mission, we may suppose, relates to the great question of the day.

It is reported that Government has given orders at Creuzot for the construction of twenty frigates, iron-plated (*cuirassées blindées*).

It has been decided that a considerable portion of soldiers belonging to the class of 1853 shall be discharged with six months' leave, which at its expiration may be converted into renewable furloughs.

On Tuesday the Plenipotentiaries of the Paris Conferences assembled; they had under their consideration the double election of Prince Couza in the Principalities of Wallachia and Moldavia.

SPAIN.

The Spanish Consul at Tangier has presented the ultimatum of his Government.

The *Correspondencia Autógrafa* announces that orders have been given for the formation of an expeditionary corps of 10,000 men.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs is preparing a note, to be addressed to the European Governments, stating the resolve of Spain to invade Morocco if reparation for the past and security for the future be not given.

AUSTRIA.

No measures announced in the Ministerial programme have yet been carried out.

The privileges to be granted to the Jews will not be the same throughout the whole empire, but will be influenced by local circumstances. The principal privilege granted to them will be the right of acquisition of house property in large towns.

It is reported that Austria intends to discount that portion of the Austrian debt which will be transferred to Lombardy, and to sell the public domains.

TURKEY AND THE EAST.

The health of the Sultan has been restored.

The French Government has intimated to the Porte that it would support the Suez Canal undertaking merely for commercial and industrial purposes.

Disturbances continue at Crete.

A Circassian deputation had arrived at Constantinople and presented to the Ambassadors of the several Powers a declaration protesting against the invasion of their country by Russia.

Disturbances have taken place in Candia, caused by the collection of certain taxes from the Greek inhabitants. Five of the tax-gatherers had been murdered.

In future a tax is to be levied on all foreigners carrying on business in Smyrna.

INDIA.

THE MILITARY EXODUS.

The Overland Mail brought dates up to the 5th of August, on which day the *Bombay Gazette* says:—

Taking up the brief summary in our last publication from the point relating to the withdrawal of large bodies of soldiers from the European regiments of the late East India Company, we have now to record that close on 6000 men have taken their discharges, or are sure to apply for them under the orders recently issued. Some of the regiments are reduced to mere skeletons. In the 4th Europeans, stationed at Allahabad, about 700 men have chosen to take their discharge. The proportion of artillerymen who have made the same choice is still larger. Many have given up ten and twelve years of military service, which would have gone far towards completing the period for a pension. The two troops of the cavalry regiment at Lucknow have dwindled down to ten men; and cavalry officers do not expect that more than 150 or 200 men per regiment will remain; and of the artillery about one-half. In the 2nd Fusiliers, stationed at Delhi, about 450 are about to leave their honourable employment; and in the Battery it is believed that about 20 will be left to perform the service. About 200 men of the 1st Fusiliers—the oldest regiment in the late service—stationed at Dugshai, a hill-station near Simla, have expressed their desire to take their discharge, and rumour says more will soon follow their example. The Commander-in-Chief has called for volunteers to supply the vacancies in the Bengal Artillery at Cawnpore, caused by the discontented gunners who are taking their discharge. Men above three and under six years' service, and above 5 feet 6½ inches in height, and with good character, are invited to volunteer. The army is "getting smaller by degrees," and is gradually melting away. According to the following statement from the *Friend of India*, the recorded losses amount to 2830, but no accounts from half the Bengal, Madras, and Bombay armies are included; and, to make a rough calculation, nearly 6000 men have taken their discharge:—

Cawnpore	...	...	...	240
Lucknow	...	...	...	190
Allahabad	...	...	...	650
Gwalior	...	...	...	640
Agra	...	...	...	52
Rawal Pindie	...	...	...	52
Barrackpore	...	...	...	56
Hazareebagh	...	...	...	250
Meerut	...	...	...	200
Delhi	...	...	...	500
Total				2830

Lord Canning, of course, in giving the men the option of taking their discharge, had no idea that they would avail themselves of it to the extent they have done. It seems it was calculated that only a portion would go, and that the likely cost of replacing that portion would be £100,000; now six times that amount will not cover the expenditure.

NEW BARRACKS.

Attention is being drawn to the erection of barracks on the Himalayan ranges, where the climate throughout the year is as cold and bracing as that of England. Some difficulty will be experienced in finding tracts of level ground for building purposes on the steep ranges bordering on the plains. But, as the object is one of great importance, skill and expense ought not to be spared in order to get over those local difficulties which are in the way of all building and engineering projects in those huge mountains.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

Excepting that they are in great distress from sickness beyond the frontier of Oude, we have nothing positively new to record respecting the rebels.

A new taxation Act, the Stamp Duties Bill, has been laid before the Legislative Council, and is likely to come into operation soon.

In obedience to the Governor-General's proclamation, the 28th of June was observed as a day of general thanksgiving for our successes during the late campaign.

The proclamation of the restoration of peace throughout her Majesty's dominions in India has been signalled by the release of the ex-King of Oude and the other State prisoners so long confined in Fort William.

Among local occurrences the most prominent is the wreck of the Natalie in the Back Bay, and within a short distance of Colaba.

It is said to be under the consideration of the Supreme Government whether Lucknow should not be made the seat of the government of the North-Western Provinces.

It is reported that volunteers from among the officers have been called for to accompany to England the men of her Majesty's Indian army who have taken their discharge under the late Government order, and that only two can be found.

It is stated from Berhampore that Lieut.-Colonel Mackenzie has had an attack of *coup de soleil*. Thirteen of the mutineers of the 5th Europeans are to be tried by court-martial. The detachment of her Majesty's 99th is expected shortly to return to Calcutta.

It is reported that the Governor-General has under his consideration a new rule regarding the tenure of Staff appointments. Officers on Staff are to vacate these appointments in March next if they have been five years absent from their regiments.

HURRICANE AT CALCUTTA.

On the night of the 26th of July a cyclone passed over Calcutta, and the following morning every line was interrupted.

Our strongest constructed lines were swept away for miles on the Barrackpore road. Seven large trees fell in different places, destroying posts and wire.

Two steamers were wrecked in the Hooghly, besides many sailing-vessels. Lives were lost, and immense destruction done.

LORD CANNING ON MISSIONARY PREACHING IN GAOLS.

Lord Canning has addressed to R. H. Davies, Esq., Secretary to the Government of the Punjab and its dependencies, a despatch upon this subject, and the following is the decisive portion of it:—

"In the opinion of the Governor-General in Council, it is idle to talk of prisoners as free agents, even in the matter of listening, and even though (as is conceded in your letter under reply) they are not to be collected together by guards to hear the preaching or to assent to the preacher's doctrine forced upon them. An earnest missionary, whose zeal would deserve nothing but praise and admiration if exercised upon men as free as himself, could not be trusted so to measure his action as to abstain from forcing himself upon those who might desire to escape from him, but who would be unable to do so; and to watch his proceedings through any officer of competent authority would be impossible. His Excellency in Council cannot easily imagine a step more likely to be understood by natives as belying our professions of neutrality in matters of religion than the sanctioning of the practice which is here recommended. It would be impossible to deny that, in adopting that practice, we were turning the machinery of justice and civil government to religious purposes. It is still firmly believed that we have made men soldiers, and have ordered them to bite cartridges, in order to convert them. It will not do to give a handle to the supposition that we sentence them to imprisonment in our gaols for the same purpose, under the pretence of administering justice. I am, therefore, directed to state, for the information of the Lieutenant-Governor and for general guidance, that the admission of a missionary to a gaol for the purpose of preaching is not to be permitted unless when a prisoner makes a request for the presence of one, I am to add that the practice advocated in these papers is not in accordance with the principle of neutrality in matters of religion, which the Government will observe in all its measures, and which it will require its servants to observe in all their official acts. The Governor-General in Council approves of the late Lieutenant-Governor's intention to prohibit the missionaries from erecting a platform for preaching in the Cutcherry premises. The question relating to the policy of Government in matters connected with religion has been very unnecessarily raised, and that it is singularly unbecoming in officers in the position of some of the writers who have taken part in the correspondence to advocate and maintain views on this important and delicate subject so directly opposed to the strong and lately reiterated commands of her Majesty's Government. The Governor-General in Council desires that the practice of originating remarks and raising and prolonging discussions on subjects of general policy, a practice which has been of late indulged in by subordinate executive officers in some parts of India, and which has been too easily tolerated by the local administration, may be entirely discouraged and repressed."

AUSTRALIA.

The Valetta has arrived at Marseilles, and brings intelligence of the loss of the steamer Northam, on the 20th of August, on the Nautilus reef, near Jeddah, in the Red Sea.

All the passengers and the chief part of the Australian mails were landed on an adjacent island. Arrangements had been made to convey them to Aden in the Benares and Cyclops, whence they will come forward to Suez by the Simla.

VICTOR EMMANUEL AND THE TUSCAN DEPUTATION.

On the 3rd inst. the King received the Tuscan deputation at four o'clock p.m. Signor Gherardisio, a member of the Commission, addressed to the King the following words:—"If the wish of Tuscany for annexation with Piedmont only served for the aggrandisement of our Majesty's State we should entertain doubts as to the acceptance of our wish by your Majesty; but, our wish being inspired by the love of Italian nationality, we hope that the thought of Italy will decide your Majesty to accept it."

His Majesty King Victor Emmanuel replied:—"Gentlemen—I am deeply sensible of the wish of the Tuscan Assembly. I thank you in my name and in the name of my people. We have received your wish as a solemn manifestation of the will of the Tuscan people, who, after having made the last vestige of the foreign domination in Tuscany to cease, desire to contribute to the constitution of a strong kingdom, which shall defend the independence of Italy. But the Tuscan Assembly will have comprehended that the accomplishment of its wish can only take place by negotiations which are about to begin on the affairs of Italy. I will second your desire, becoming myself strong by the rights which are given me by your wishes. I will support the cause of Tuscany before the Powers in which the Assembly places its hopes, and especially before the magnanimous Emperor of the French, who has done so much for the Italian nation. I hope that Europe will not refuse to practise towards Tuscany that work of redressing grievances which it has under less favourable circumstances practised towards Greece, Belgium, and the Danubian Principalities. Your noble country gives an admirable example of moderation and concord. You will add those virtues to that one which ensures the triumph of all honest undertakings and which overcomes all obstacles—namely, perseverance."

ANOTHER "AMERICAN TRAGEDY."—The Cincinnati papers give an account of a melancholy affair which has recently taken place in that town. It appears that a young man, named Thomas Eugene de Marbais, had a wife living in an irregular house in Plum-street. He had five times previously attempted to kill himself and his wife. One evening he sent the following note to his wife:—"Send me word by the boy, may I come and see you? I wait an answer on the corner. I cannot exist without seeing you. Let me come; must see you very soon. Oh, Blanche! Blanche! Blanche! I am very repentant. Come! Come! I cannot live without seeing you." About eleven o'clock at night he called at the house in Plum-street, and desired to see his wife. She came down to see him, and he told her he wanted to walk out with her, and said he, "I am going to kill you." She said she was not afraid, and they went out together. Soon afterwards the police were started by hearing two pistol reports at the corner of Plum-street and Eighth-street. They immediately ran to the spot, and found Blanche sitting up quietly, while De Marbais was stretched at full length on the pavement, apparently dead. Upon being assisted up De Marbais exclaimed "There is no one to blame but me; I did it." Blanche said, "I came out of the house to die." She then added, "Oh, my daughter, oh, my daughter!" Her daughter, it seemed, was with the Marsh troupe. Upon examination it was found that Blanche was shot in the left breast, just above the nipple, and that De Marbais was shot in the right ear. The latter said they had taken thirty grains of morphine divided into two portions. Blanche is a young woman of great beauty, and has a sweet countenance. It is thought she is French. De Marbais is a young man who had been well off, but had lately fallen into a state of great want and misery, and had been in the negro minstrelsy business. Several letters were found upon him addressed to his wife and his mother and sisters. In these letters he speaks of the extreme distress to which he had been reduced; that the public of this cold-hearted city had refused him employment, and he had been left destitute. He earnestly repeats how sincerely he had loved his wife, and how faithful she had been to him until she had been obliged to desert him through greater misfortunes than want. He says the principal cause of his misfortunes arose from the conduct of a clerk in a large drug-store; that if a man did wrong once they would not help him, but trampled him under foot. He then goes on to state that the step taken by himself and his wife had been taken deliberately, and because they preferred death to a dis honourable life.

ITALIAN AFFAIRS.

THE CONFERENCES.

On the 7th inst. the French and Sardinian Plenipotentiaries met in conference. The subject was the settlement of the Lombardian frontiers. Count Colloredo and M. de Bourquenay had afterwards a short consultation.

Austria desires a guarantee from Sardinia against all future secret intrigues in Italy previous to making any concessions at the Conference.

It is asserted that the principal object of Prince Metternich's visit to St. Sauveur was to arrange an interview between the Emperors of France and Austria. It has since been reported that the Castle of Arenenberg is being prepared for the reception of the two Sovereigns.

THE DUCHIES.

The vote respecting the annexation of the Duchy of Parma to Piedmont has been made known. There are 63,403 votes in favour of the annexation, and 506 against it. The elections have been concluded with admirable order. The most respectable men in the country have been returned. The opening of the Assembly will take place with great solemnity.

The Marquis de Ferrière le Vayer, the French Ambassador at Florence, has been recalled by his Government.

On the evening of the 4th inst. a grand illumination took place throughout Tuscany. The municipal body of Florence gave a grand fête. A proclamation of the Government explains the words which the King of Sardinia had addressed to the Tuscan deputation. The peasantry participate in the universal joy of the people of Tuscany.

The Governor-General of the Romagna has opened the National Assembly; the following is a summary of his speech on the occasion:—“The people of the Romagna, after having exhibited great prudence during the last three months, hastened in crowds to the electoral districts to record their votes. Now, it is for you, gentlemen, to give expression to the wishes of the people. The good result of my government is owing to the zeal of those who have elected me. I have endeavoured to provide for the defence of the country against aggressions from all sides by forming a league with the neighbouring States.” He concluded thus:—“Constitute your Government, and intrust it to him who possesses your confidence.”

At their first meeting the Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution to the effect that “the people of the Romagna, strong in their right, will no longer submit to the temporal government of the Pope.”

General Fanti assumes the command in chief of the confederated troops of Central Italy.

A letter from Rome of the 1st instant says:—“The Ambassador of France has represented to the Government here that the Emperor would see with pleasure, under certain conditions freely accepted by both sides, the Legations return again under the authority of the Pope. They might, for example, he said, retain the Administration which they have given themselves, and which appears to satisfy them, and pay the same tribute and taxes as those which existed at the moment of the *de facto* separation. It was added by the Ambassador that the military occupation of Rome by a French division must necessarily cease, but nothing definitive was said as to the period at which it should do so; it is, however, believed that it will be in the course of the coming year, and perhaps in the first six months of it.”

At Naples there has been an extensive conflagration, which might have caused the destruction of the whole quarter in which it broke out (the Strade de Toledo). It began to burn at nine in the evening, but the firemen did not arrive until eleven; and even then they did not bring their fire-engines. They were obliged to apply for a permission to obtain the fire-engines in the Townhall, and much time was lost in complying with the formalities required. M.M. Perrenat and Martin, French merchants, have been nearly ruined by the fire, and a subscription has been opened for their relief.

THE CHOLERA AT HAMBURG.

The medical profession, during the last two months, has been seriously alarmed lest the country should again be visited by cholera as an epidemic. Everything seemed to indicate that the disease not only would appear, but that it would also assume that form which is so much dreaded. Reports were duly received at the Privy Council Office, which now represents the defunct General Board of Health, of the steady approach of the disease by its old road from Russia, through Germany, to Hamburg; and, assuming that the same laws would regulate its approach as on former occasions, it seemed hardly possible that this country could escape. Under the old system the General Board of Health, on the first symptom of the disease appearing in an epidemic form, either in Austria, Prussia, or Germany, always despatched medical inspectors to report on the peculiar phases of the disease, and on the probabilities of its appearance in England. This course has not, however, been adopted on the present occasion. Accounts, it is true, have from time to time been received from our Ambassadors and Consuls on the Continent of the progress of the disease, and of its steady approach to this country since February, until it at last appeared at Hamburg, where it has been unusually virulent, as many as four hundred to five hundred having died weekly for some time past. It has likewise appeared at Dantzig, and at most of the ports of the Baltic. In opposition to the system adopted on former occasions, the German authorities, and especially those of Hamburg, have kept the presence of the pest in that city as quiet as possible, deeming that one of the great predisposing causes of the disease was fear. Acting on this principle, the Privy Council Office have not published any statements as to the progress of the epidemic, neither have any precautionary directions been issued. It seems as if the Government of the day were determined to fall back upon the same system which was adopted by the Privy Council Office in 1821-2 and 3—a system supposed to have become obsolete. Further, it was imagined that the General Board of Health had satisfactorily proved that cholera was not contagious, and that quarantine regulations were entirely useless. Indeed, Lord J. Russell, in his defence of the General Board of Health, just previous to its first reorganisation, in the House of Commons, stated it as his opinion, and that of the then Government, that, if the General Board of Health had done nothing else, the valuable information they had obtained as to the non-contagious character of cholera entitled the Board to the most favourable consideration of Parliament. All this, however, seems now to be ignored, for we find that Dr. M'William, in the absence of Sir W. Pym, the superintendent of quarantine establishments, has been as active as ever in putting into practise regulations which were proved, during three several visitations, to be worse than useless. This was hardly to have been expected, because Lord Palmerston, of late years, has been a professed sanitary reformer; and the Earl of Shaftesbury, as one of the members of the late General Board of Health, was especially convinced of the advantage of preventing sanitary measures, instead of futile quarantine regulations. It is not, however, too late to prevent a recurrence to the old system. Mr. Simon, the Medical Officer of Health, as adviser to the Government, has it still in his power to prevent an entire recurrence to the old system, of which he was a violent opponent. Cholera, it is true, has not yet appeared in an epidemic form, but there have been many cases of decided Asiatic cholera in London, in Hull, and in Newcastle. Diarrhoea, the premonitory form of the disease, has been unusually severe, and we have the printed authority of the Registrar-General that the mortality from diarrhoea has been greater than when cholera was present. According to the weekly return the number of deaths from diarrhoea in the week ending Aug. 27 was 215, an unusually large number for the time of year; and besides this there were ten cases of cholera, one being that of a man aged thirty-seven, who died on board the Dreadnought hospital-ship. But diarrhoea is not confined to the metropolis; it has been prevalent throughout the whole of the country. To a certain extent the accession of disease may be due to the unusual high temperature; but when we bear in mind that the same thing was observed previous to the outbreak of epidemic cholera on the two last occasions when the disease was at Hamburg, the public may be excused for feeling a little uncomfortable. During the last six weeks 1860 persons have died from diarrhoea in London alone. This fact should attract the immediate attention of the authorities. No doubt it is inexpedient, if not dangerous, to alarm the public; but the Privy Council, or whatever the authority may be—for there have been so many different alterations in the laws affecting the public health that it is difficult to know which is the responsible department—should quietly take the initiative in recommending the adoption of preventive measures by the several local authorities. Many may, perhaps, be disposed to urge that, because the summer is all but over, all danger is at an end; but cholera appeared in October and November in 1848, and at the same period of the year on the next visitation. All that is contended for is that the responsible executive should be on the alert; and that, while cholera is so virulent at Hamburg, the old port from which it came on previous occasions, every preparation should be made to meet any contingency that may arise.—*Observer.*

IRELAND.

SUPPOSED MURDER AT MACROOM.—Daniel Lynch, who lived about five miles from the town, where he rented a farm on the property of R. J. Rye, Esq., of Rye-court, left home for the purpose of transacting some business in Macroom, and it was rumoured that parties in his neighbourhood were aware that money was due to him, and that he expected to receive payment. Not returning home at the hour expected, some uneasiness was felt as to his safety, but at about ten o'clock the sound of his horse and car approaching his residence dispelled the fears entertained by his family. The horse and car stopped on coming up to his door; but the feelings of his relatives may be imagined when, on approaching the car, they discovered that Lynch, though seated in it, was quite dead, his skull being fractured in five or six places, and his face so mangled that his features could scarcely be recognised. A portion of his clothes was absent, those that remained being saturated with blood. The body was still warm, and apparently the outrage must have been committed within half an hour. The alarm was of course instantly spread through the district, and the police scoured the country in every direction. The clothes of the deceased were found in a ditch on the roadside, between his own house and Macroom. But an inquest has since been held, and a minute examination of the circumstances has, in the opinion of the jury, shown that the death was an accidental one, arising from intoxication, and not a body inclined over the car, the head coming in contact with the wheel. The leg which was between the horse and the shaft of the car kept him from falling out, and for the distance of several miles the wheels continued to revolve against his head. The appearance of the body confirms this supposition. The right side of the face, which was next the wheel, is a mass of black torn flesh, and the right eye appears literally rooted out. The thumb of the right hand is also cut away, and the flesh of the right arm is severely lacerated.

SMITH O'BRIEN IN ARMAGH.—This eccentric “patriot” visited Armagh the other day, when he received such an ovation as his heart delights in. The mob cheered, tar barrels blazed in the streets, and, better than all, he got the opportunity of making a speech.

THE PRIESTS AND THE FAIRS.—The priestly condemnation of the extra fair of Navan, commonly known as the great Leinster fair, has been carried out to the letter. After full notice had been given to the public an attempt was made to effect sales; but from sunrise to sunset not a single head of cattle was to be seen on the fair-green. There was no rioting, or any disposition evinced to create disturbance.

THE “REVIVALS.”—The “movement” is now said to be “commencing in right earnest in the capital of Ulster.” In Belfast “a young woman named Anne Devlin, residing in Hunter’s-row, off Pinkerton’s-row, fell off in this state at eleven o’clock, as she had previously stated she would do. There was no clock or other timepiece in the house in which she could be in anywise guided; and yet at the hour which she had named she fell over into a state of unconsciousness to all around, although not of inaction. She was to all appearance quite deaf and speechless, while her countenance was lighted up with a glow of joy and radiant smiles which baffle description. Her Bible and hymn-book lay on her bed, and, with her eyes perfectly closed, she turned over the leaves of these books with rapidity which could not be approached by any one in a conscious state, and in them pointed out the most appropriate passages and hymns;” and so forth. This state appears to be a very shocking one for a young woman to fall into.

THE POTATO CROP.—A correspondent of the *Sligo Champion* says:—“I speak from personal observation through several counties when I say that the cereal harvest, taken altogether, will be about an average, and that the potatoes, although short in produce, are, upon the whole, sound and good. We are happy to say that the ‘nativa’ esculent never presented better appearances, and bids fair to afford plenty for all—rich and poor.”

IRISH POOR-LAW UNIONS.—In 103 unions of Ireland on the 23rd of July last there were 1029 men and 2001 women unmarried, the average annual cost of whose in-maintenance and clothing was £5 11s. 6d. a head. All these unmarried paupers were between the ages of fifteen and twenty years.

SCOTLAND.

THE BRAEMAR GATHERING.—This annual meeting was held in front of the old Castle of Mar, Deeside, on Thursday. The weather was not at all favourable, a thick wetting mist floated about all day and slight showers of rain fell occasionally. Notwithstanding this, however, there was good turn out of spectators. Besides seeing the clans in array and witnessing the games, there was also the chance of the Queen and Royal Family being present, but on Thursday the fatigue of the previous day’s journey to Balmoral prevented her Majesty from honouring the gathering. The games were very stiffly contested, the feats of strength, of course, developing the powers of the stalwart Highlanders to most advantage. Where art or agility come into play the Highlanders have no chance with their comparatively miniature brethren from the city. The dancing was, however, very good, and was rendered additionally interesting by some of the nobler scions of the “houses” present joining in the contest. The meeting concluded with a ball held in the evening in the romantic old stronghold of Mar.

THE POTATO DISEASE.—Here and there, says the *Baugh Journal*, potato disease is making way, though it is as yet much more partial this year than it has ever before been. In Fyvie “there are a few patches going fast,” and at Monymusk, on the Don, the tops are quite decayed. In some cases tubers, too, have been found a good deal affected.

DEER-STALKING.—The eldest son of Mr. Joseph Lees, of Clarkesfield, near Manchester (a youth of fifteen), on Monday, the 29th ult., at Shabb-Ossian, Invernessshire, stalked and killed a fine roebuck with six points; and on Tuesday was successful in stalking and bringing down, at his first shot, a fine stag.

REVIVAL MEETINGS.—The *Glasgow Journal* says:—“This wonderful movement seems to be laying a strong hold on the community at large, and interest in it is daily increasing. There are now established in several places in the city, daily, noonday, and evening prayer meetings, which are attended by large numbers of both sexes, and of all denominations of Christians; indeed, at some of them males predominate.”

NEW DRINKING-FOUNTAIN AT EDINBURGH.—A handsome structure has been raised in Edinburgh, which combines a drinking-fountain for human beings with troughs for horses and dogs. The erection is triangular, and rises nearly fifteen feet from the level of the street. The diameter at the base is five feet. Descending through the building unseen, the water emerges through an ornamental pipe, at which pendent ladies are filled by human drinkers, thence to a trough for horses, and, finally, at the street level, into another for dogs. The fountain is called the “Sinclair Fountain,” in honour of Miss Catherine Sinclair, who subscribed £100 towards the fund of £180, which will more than meet the cost.

THE PROVINCES.

LIBERAL DEMONSTRATION AT MAIDSTONE.—On Wednesday, the 2nd, the sitting members, Messrs. Lee and Buxton, attended a fete at the seat of Mr. Whitman, to celebrate their return. There were 1200 persons present, and it was a very gay affair. Mr. Buxton wound up his speech by saying that, in his opinion, this country “presented now a spectacle of high moral grandeur.” It may be so.

VOLUNTEER RIFLE CORPS.—A meeting has been held at Witham, Lord Rayleigh in the chair, to promote the formation of a volunteer rifle corps in that neighbourhood. The noble Lord stated that he was too old himself to enter into the corps with any degree of activity or zeal, but if one were established he should be happy to subscribe something in aid of it.

MURDER AND SUICIDE AT MAIDSTONE.—At No. 3, George-street, Mr. James Davis, bricklayer, lived with his second wife, Mercy, aged twenty-five; her child, a beautiful little girl of five months; and a girl of about eleven years, the daughter of Mr. Davis by his first wife. Mrs. Davis had for some time past been in a desponding state, but no alarm was excited, as her conduct was uniformly kind. On Thursday week, after partaking of dinner with her husband and family, she went up stairs to do the work in the bedrooms, taking with her the infant. The elder girl accompanied her, but was on some pretence sent down again. About three o’clock the girl again went up stairs to change her frock, when she saw her stepmother and the infant hanging side by side, suspended from the footrail of the bedstead—a four-posted one. She gave an immediate alarm, and a Mrs. Hartley, a neighbour, ran in and cut down the bodies, life being utterly extinct.

CONDITION OF DORSETSHIRE LABOURERS.—At the Wimborne Petty Sessions, last week, a case occurred which painfully illustrates the condition of the Dorsetshire peasantry. George Frampton, a labourer, was charged with being in possession of a hare which he had caught while he was at work in a harvest-field. A nominal fine of 1s., but a real mulct of 12s. costs, were inflicted upon him; but, inasmuch as it was stated that he had a wife and five children, and that his wages were only 8s. a week, a fortnight was allowed him in which to pay the money.

DESTRUCTION OF A MILL BY FIRE NEAR HUDDERSFIELD.—Early on Friday morning the mill at Stoney Bank, near Huddersfield, in the occupation of Messrs. Henry Pontefract and John Richard Owen, was discovered to be on fire. The building is completely gutted, nothing being left but the bare walls. The full extent of the damage has not yet been ascertained, but it is estimated at not less than £3000. The owners of the building, as well as Messrs. Pontefract and Owen, are insured to a considerable amount, but it is feared not to the extent of their loss.

ELECTRICAL PHENOMENA.—Many lines of electric telegraph have been thrown out of order lately by the highly electrical state of the atmosphere. At Manchester, on Sunday, the deflections of the needles at the telegraphic offices were strong and erratic, but, not being a business day, the inconvenience was not great. On Monday, however, during the early part of the day, the electricity was so abundant that no information could be obtained for the newspaper-offices, nor were private messages transmissible. The needles, instead of being obedient to the ordinary magnetic current, were violently agitated and deflected by the electricity of the atmosphere, the result being that the telegraphic clerks could only decipher a word or two of a sentence, leaving the information incomplete, consequently valueless. So great a disturbance of the electric currents has not been known for many years, scarcely since the invention of electrical telegraphing.

THE BRADFORD STABBING CASE.—At the inquest on Patrick Crowley, stabbed by Thomas Clarke in several places, a verdict of “Wilful murder” has been returned.

DROWNING AT ECCLES.—A Mrs. Parkinson has fallen into an old uncovered well, fifteen yards deep, and been drowned. An elderly man named James Howard stated that thirty years ago a child of his was drowned in the same well. It was then covered up, since which few people knew of its existence. An examination showed that the timber which supported the covering had decayed; and this, with the late rains, combined with the large number of persons who had been trampling over the insecure chasm during the wakes, had no doubt led to the accident. Had it happened an hour earlier, it is probable that several persons would have fallen in, as many had been gathered upon the spot.

THE FATAL EXPLOSION ON THE TYNE.—The adjourned inquest on the body of the man who lost his life in the explosion on board the William and Mary terminated in the jury returning the following verdict:—“We are all of one opinion that the explosion was owing to the ignorance and carelessness of the master and engineer of the William and Mary, and we return a verdict of Manslaughter against them.” The men were afterwards taken into custody.

REFORM DEMONSTRATION AT CHELMSFORD.—This town was the scene of a good deal of political excitement on Monday in consequence of the ovation offered by the Liberal electors and non-electors of South Essex to their late representative, Mr. K. B. Wingfield Baker. The hon. gentleman was met by his friends in the grounds of Mr. T. D. Ridley, and a procession was formed and traversed the town. The reception experienced by Mr. Baker was most cordial, and the committee formed for conducting the proceedings presented him with a vote of thanks for his past services, and a request that he would allow himself to be put in nomination on a future occasion. To this request it is needless to say that Mr. Baker acceded. A large party, numbering at least seven hundred and fifty persons, dined together in the spacious and elegant Corn Exchange recently erected in the town. The chair was occupied by Mr. Tindal Atkinson.

ROBBERY AT MANCHESTER.—An extraordinary robbery was committed in Manchester on Friday week. A gentleman from Rochdale, who had taken £1200 in notes at Sir Benjamin Heywood’s bank, very foolishly placed the valuable paper in one of the outer pockets of his coat. A number of persons were in the bank at the time, and some nimble-fingered individual, profiting by the folly of the Rochdale gentleman, extracted the money on the spot.

GREAT FIRE AT WILLINGHAM.—On Thursday last the village of Willingham, in Cambridgeshire, was visited by a most destructive fire, causing damage estimated at £10,000, sixteen dwelling-houses having been rendered uninhabitable, and a considerable quantity of corn, hay, straw, &c., also destroyed. No lives were lost, but some men were severely burned in endeavouring to save furniture from one of the burning houses.

DISASTER ON THE BIRMINGHAM CANAL.—On Tuesday last an alarming accident occurred on the Birmingham Canal at Dudley Port. During the evening a watchman in the employ of the Canal Company noticed the canal banks gradually sinking, but before he could summon assistance the banks sank eight or nine feet with a fearful crash. An old man and woman residing in a cottage near the canal bank were with great difficulty rescued; the house was completely surrounded, and all the furniture, &c., was afloat. The rush of water into the pits will prevent their being worked for some time. Four pits belonging to Messrs. Bagnall are also stopped from the water having flowed in; and great damage has been done to the works of Messrs. Badger, Messrs. Sandars, and Messrs. Hickman. It will probably be a month or more before the repairs will be completed. The traffic to Birmingham and Wolverhampton will be conducted on another branch of the canal.

THE HOPS IN MAIDSTONE.—The weather of late has been most propitious for the final growth of the hops. The gardens were scarcely ever in better order, and the extraordinary progress made during the last week or ten days has induced a rise in the amount of duty bated on which will probably lead to much disappointment and surprise at the settling day.

VOLUNTEER CORPS IN MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Strenuous efforts are being made in this county with the object of forming efficient volunteer corps.

REVIVALS IN MANCHESTER.—On Tuesday meetings were held at the Free-trade Hall to commence the work of religious revival in Manchester. The ante-room of the Free-trade Hall was crowded with an orderly and devout congregation. Admission was by free ticket.

WILTSHIRE POLITICS.—The anniversary dinner of the Bear Club, a charitable institution, came off at Devizes on Thursday last, when the members for the town and others made speeches, chiefly concerning our national defences.

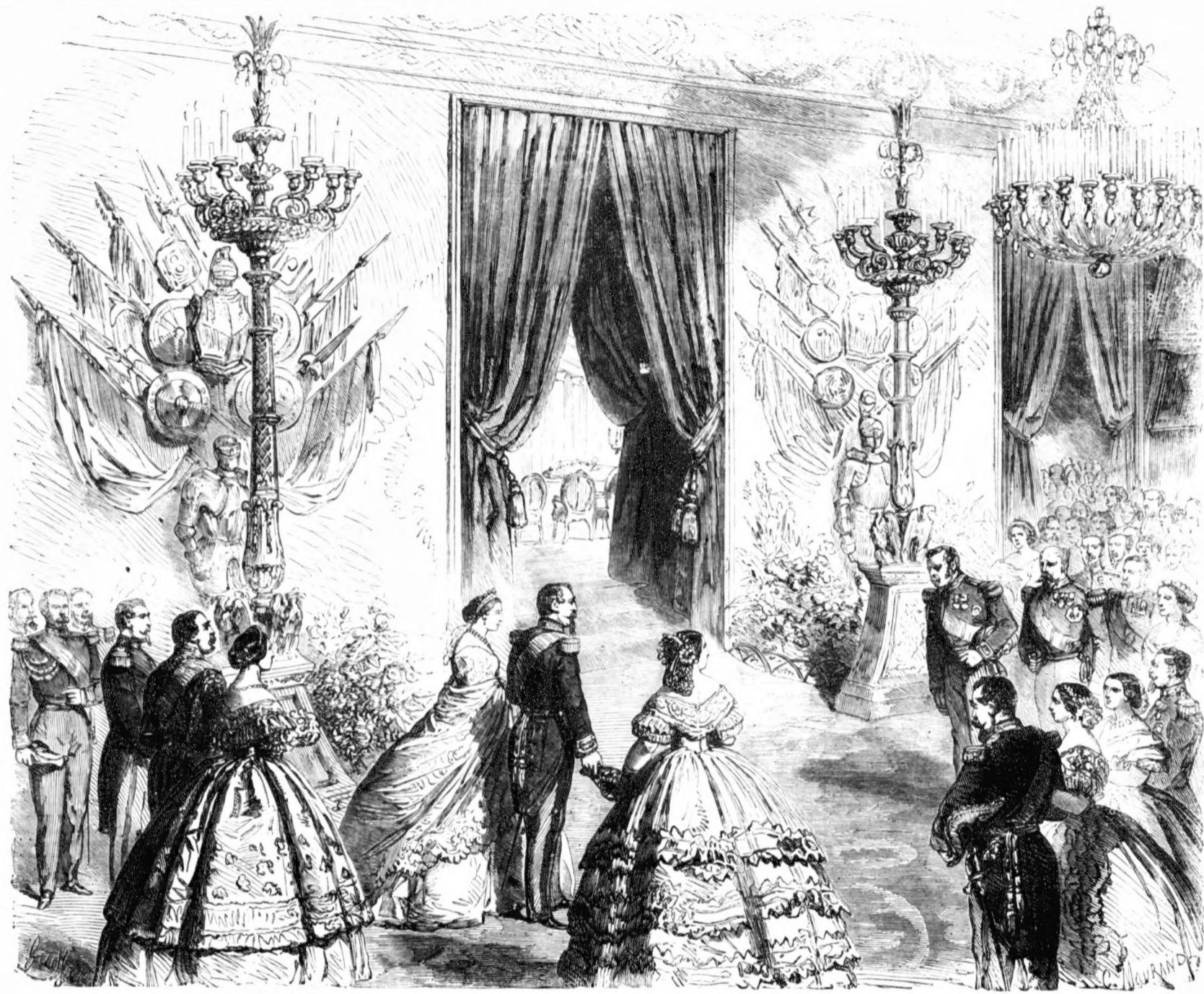
SOUTH DEVON.—At a banquet at Ashburton, recently, Mr. Palk and Mr. Kekewich talked of “a stand-up fight” against the present Government, next session, “in an honest and straightforward way.”

CUTLERS’ FEAST, SHEFFIELD.—This was held on Thursday evening, and speeches were made by Mr. James Wilson, Sir J. W. Ramsden, and others, on Indian, foreign, and home affairs.

DISCONTINUANCE OF CHURCH RATES IN ST. MATTHEW’S, IPSWICH.—We believe we may announce (says the *Suffolk Chronicle*) that church rates in this parish will be discontinued; Mr. Catt, one of the churchwardens, with the acquiescence of the Rector, the Rev. C. H. Gaye, having obtained the assent of the leading churchmen of the parish to the voluntary system. We congratulate the parish upon this determination.

EXCELLENT MR. GLYDE!—At Bristol Jabez Glyde has been charged with having left his wife and family chargeable to the parish. Mrs. Glyde, who was in attendance, said she had borne her husband six children. She last saw him nine years ago, when, after the birth of one of their children, she met him in Manchester. Eight years ago he wrote to her, but since then he had never sent her a sixpence either for herself or the children. Thomas, the Mayor’s sergeant, said that when he found the prisoner he was staying with a woman by whom he had had three children. He was a local preacher. The prisoner corrected the officer, and said he was a missionary. Thomas: Well, he was a sort of missionary, and was much respected. The prisoner, when called upon for his answer, acknowledged that Mrs. Glyde was his wife, and that, as he had transgressed the law, he was entitled to censure. He said there were features in his case which he hoped would be considered. At the age of twenty-two he became seriously impressed, and he was not afraid or ashamed to confess it. He was for ten years the agent of a Christian society, and was respected; indeed, he could say that his conduct was worthy of his profession. As that agent he was called away from his home, and he left his wife to take care of his family, little thinking that she would act otherwise than properly. He never suspected, till four years before he left her, that she was “addicted to infidelity.” Here the magistrates interrupted him, and told him that if he meant to accuse his wife of adultery he must be prepared to prove it, as otherwise they could pay no attention to the charge. The prisoner then went on to allege that his wife had threatened to do for him, and that he had been so much afraid of her that he had often taken his child on his knee and made him eat the food she had given him, lest it might destroy him. The wife solemnly denied these allegations, and said the prisoner had never before ventured on them. In no one of his letters had he ever mentioned them. The magistrates said they felt that it was a case in which they ought to impose the full penalty, and they therefore ordered him to be committed as a rogue and vagabond, and to be kept to hard labour for the space of three months.—[The most curiously-told part of the above story we have put in italics. We presume it means, that the mother not being likely to kill her child, Glyde had used him as a sort of King’s taster.]

FIVE WEEKS IN A PLANTATION.—It is stated (says the *Norwich Mercury*) that on Sunday the son of a shoemaker, named Blyth, residing in St. Faith’s, Norwich, while walking in a plantation of Mr. Joshua Reynolds, in that parish, found there a man named John Back, a vagrant, who said that he came from Wisbeach. Back lay upon the ground in a state of great exhaustion, and called to the boy for assistance, telling him he was dying of starvation. The boy, who says he saw the man in the same place three weeks before, when he took him to be a keeper, at once went to the village and gave the alarm. A number of the villagers immediately started for the spot, and, finding the man too weak to stand, put him in a cart and drove him to the Union-house. On stripping him it was found that the side on which he had been lying was covered with sores; and the man stated that about five weeks ago he was taken ill and went into the plantation, which he had since been unable to leave. He had subsisted during that time on grass and the bark of the trees which grew close by where he lay. He says he remembers lying on the ground during the whole of the terrible thunder-storm that occurred a few weeks ago. It is said that hundreds of persons have visited the plantation since the man was found there, and that the place where he has lain is distinctly marked upon the grass, while the marks where he has gnawed the bark of the trees are plainly visible.



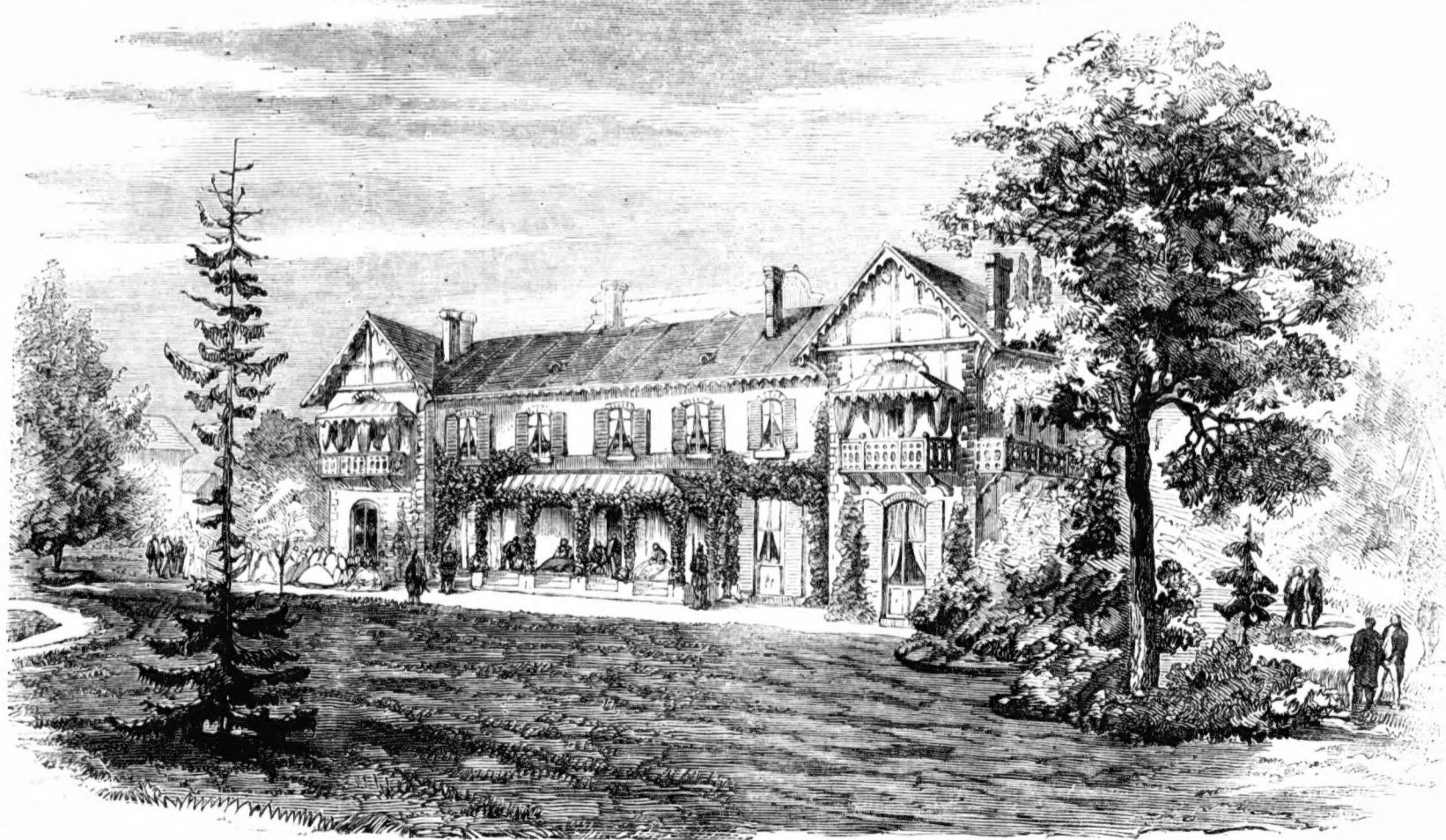
THE PARIS FETES—THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH PROCEEDING TO THE BANQUET AT THE LOUVRE.

THE IMPERIAL HOLIDAY.

On the 17th ult. the Emperor and Empress of the French left Paris for the Baths of St. Sauveur, in the Pyrenees, and on their way did M. Fould the honour to visit him at his château at Tarbes. Our Illustration shows their Majesties seated beneath the verandah facing

the park, while a deputation of young girls are presenting the Empress with a magnificent bouquet. Their Majesties partook of M. Fould's hospitality but for one night, being anxious to reach St. Sauveur without delay, to test the invigorating qualities of its waters. It appears his Majesty bathes every morning at seven, and her

Majesty at eight. It is said that the Emperor will order various constructions in the environs of St. Sauveur; amongst others, the creation of a series of terrace bankings and plantations, to protect the town from avalanches, and also the restoration of the old hermitage of St. Pierre, the ruins of which are opposite Luz. The Emperor and



THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS AT THE CHATEAU OF M. FOULD.

Empress seem much pleased with their new residence. "I have visited various parts of the Alps," said the Emperor, the other day, to one of the principal functionaries of the district, "but I have never seen anything so beautiful as the valley of Luz."

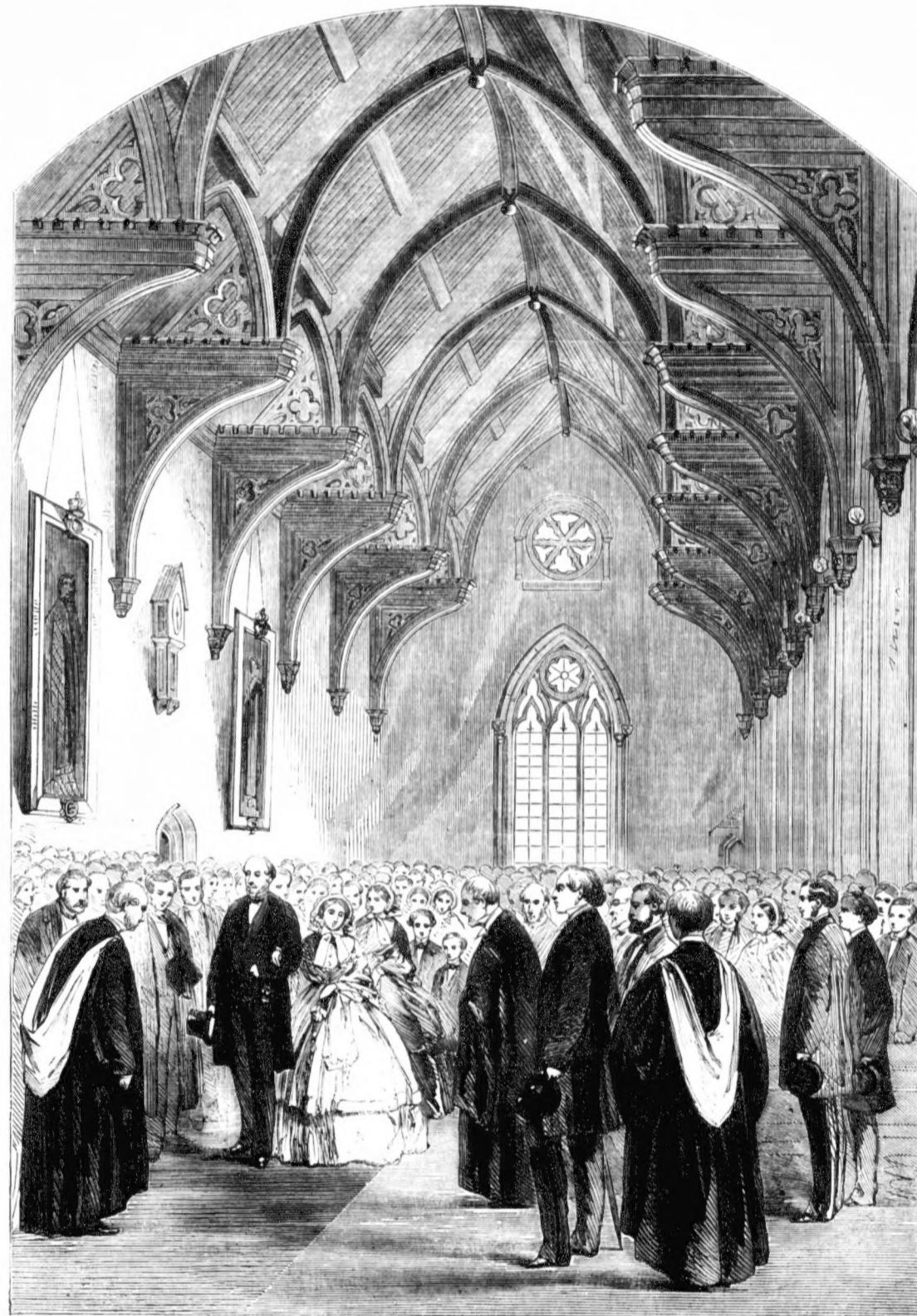
The mountaineers of Luz are famous for their skill in singing. They are simple peasants, most of whom cannot read, and not one of whom knows music; but they sing together, with great skill and taste, the songs of the country or pieces of their own composition. A number of singers collected the other evening before the house occupied by their Majesties and began singing. The drawing-room in which their Majesties sit is on the ground floor, and the moment the singers began the Emperor appeared at the door, and was shortly after followed by the Empress. The Empress seated herself on a chair on the doorsteps, with two ladies of honour behind her; and the Emperor, descending amongst the crowd, stood leaning against the wall. The singers, though somewhat moved at such close proximity to their Majesties, sung exceedingly well, and their Majesties several times gave the signal of applause. One of the songs was a sort of cantata in honour of the Imperial family; and a prayer to God to watch over the Emperor and the Imperial Prince, which it contained, drew tears to the eyes of the Empress. When the singing had ceased, the bystanders cried out with great enthusiasm, "Vive l'Empereur!" "Vive l'Imperatrice!" "Vive la Prince Imperial!" The Empress then advanced to the singers, accompanied by the Emperor, and addressed to them her thanks and compliments.

"The Emperor and Empress," says a letter from Biarritz, "are not expected to reach this place until about the 10th of September. Their Majesties will not, it is thought, prolong their stay at the villa beyond the 25th, when the Court will return to Paris, and then proceed to Compiègne, some days earlier than was at first expected."

THE QUEEN AT VICTORIA COLLEGE, JERSEY.

In a former Impression we published Illustrations of her Majesty's visit to the Channel Islands; since which a correspondent has been kind enough to forward to us a sketch of the Queen in the Great Hall of the Victoria College.

Her Majesty was received on alighting from her carriage by the Rev. W. G. Henderson, D.C.L., the Principal; the Constable of St. Helier was also in attendance, and her Majesty was accompanied, in addition to the Royal party, by Col. Le Couteur, Q.A.D.C. Her Majesty and the Prince Consort each asked a great variety of questions about the College; how long it had been completed; what was the number of the students; the plan of educa-



HER MAJESTY PASSING THROUGH THE GREAT HALL OF VICTORIA COLLEGE, JERSEY.

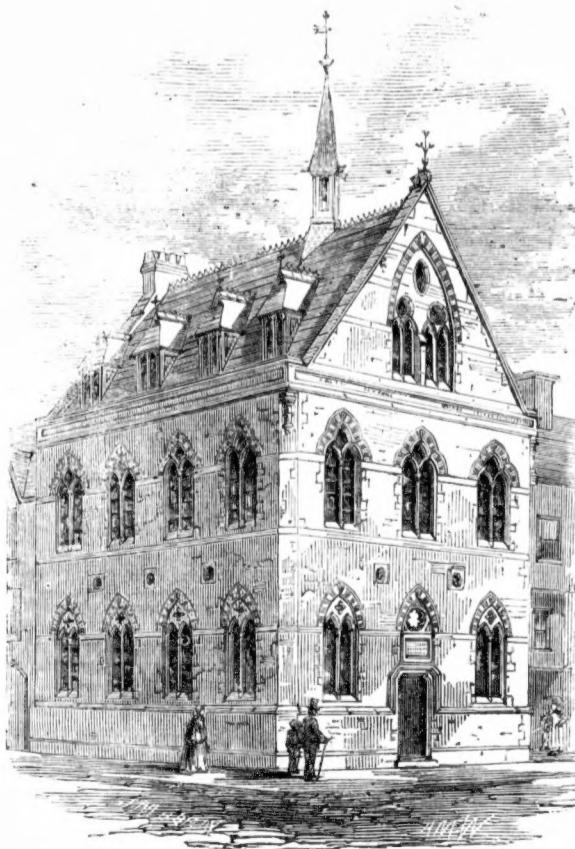
tion; whether those who went to England went mainly to the Universities, or followed other pursuits. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness both expressed admiration of the architecture of the room, and of the view from the front of the College, and showed the greatest interest in the whole of the arrangements connected with the Institution.

The Bailiff and the Members of the States received her Majesty in the upper hall, where were also present the Professors and Masters of the College, the students, and the Bishop and Clergy, and a number of officers in uniform.

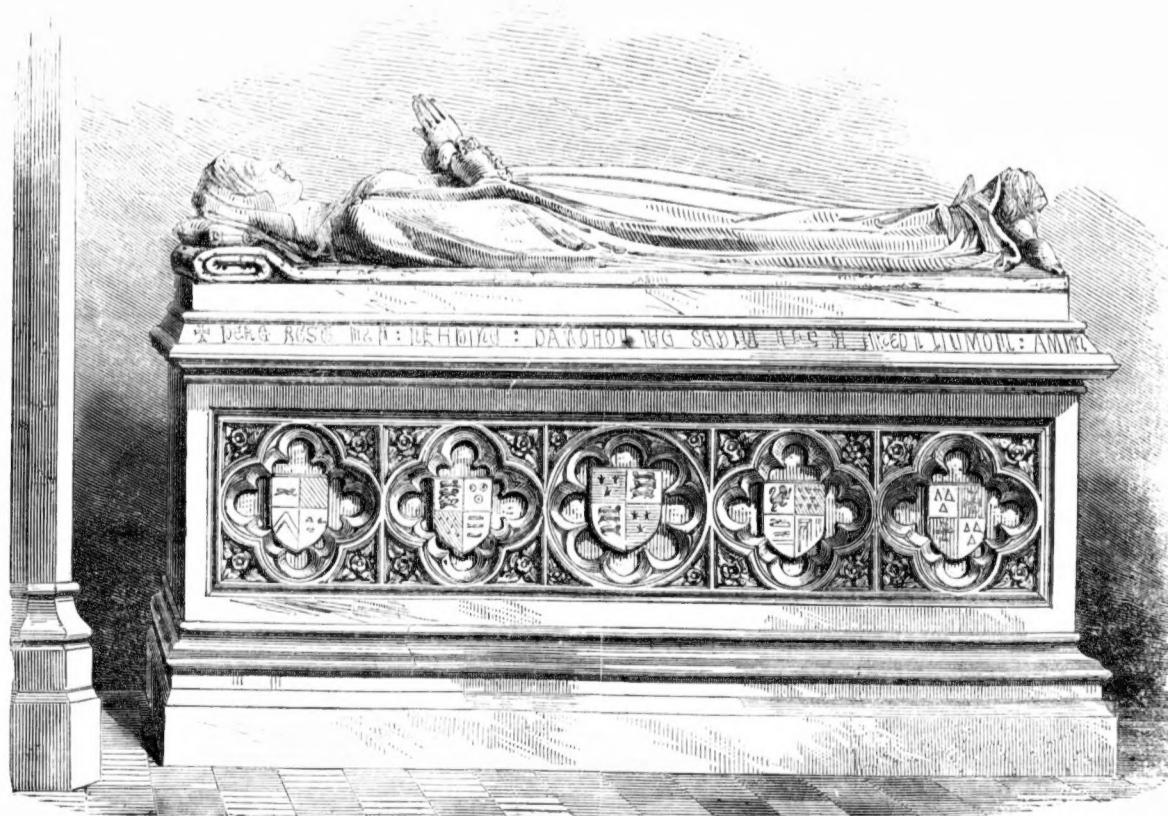
The Queen and the Prince commenced a visitor's book by severally writing their names in it, her Majesty inscribing the words "Victoria Regina, 13th August, 1859." There was perfect silence in the room until the Queen left it; but as her Majesty descended the stairs, loud cheering proved the loyalty of the boys. The Queen communicated to the Rev. the Principal, through the Dean, her command that a week's holiday should be added to the next vacation of the boys at Michaelmas.

Apparently the Royal visitors were most inquiring, and anxious to obtain information during their drive through St. Heliers, and the Prince Consort frequently addressed himself to the Chief Constable for that purpose. The latter on several occasions called the Prince's attention to the different public buildings—to the ruins of the hospital, for example, when her Majesty was graciously pleased to take part in the conversation, expressing her satisfaction on hearing that none of the inmates had suffered in the recent conflagration.

Whilst the Royal party were waiting on the Pier the arrival of the Royal barge. The Prince Consort said to the Constable that it was to be regretted that the harbour was not so constructed as to permit vessels arriving in it at all states of the tide; and he asked if the idea had not occurred of having a wet dock built, so useful in all tidal harbours. The Constable answered that this matter had been under consideration for a length of time past, that the Albert Pier had been built in great part with this object; and he pointed out to his Royal Highness the proposed site of the basin. The Prince next made inquiry as to the number of steamers which ply regularly between Jersey and other places, the extent of the trade with Newfoundland, the drainage of the town, &c. He also asked if the splendid granite blocks which were lying on the quay were the produce of the local quarries, and whether they were destined for public works in Jersey; and he appeared surprised to learn that the blocks were intended to be sent to England, whither the Island exports an immense quantity of granite. Lastly, the Prince inquired if regattas were often held, and appeared pleased to find that this national amusement was not altogether neglected in Jersey.



NEW SCHOOLS AT BARNSTAPLE.—[MR. R. R. GOULD, ARCHITECT.]



TOMB OF QUEEN CATHERINE PARR, IN THE CHAPEL OF SUDELEY CASTLE

THE INDEPENDENT DISSENTERS' SCHOOLS,
BARNSTAPLE.

The Independent Dissenters of Barnstaple were first formed into a congregation by the grandfather of the poet Gay, whose name was Jonathan Hanmer, and by Mr. Oliver Pendar. The former was a lecturer at the church in the time of Cromwell, and wrote a treatise on Confirmation, which was recommended by Baxter.

In 1705 there was a split amongst the Dissenters, and the seceders worshipped in a private house till the present commodious chapel was built for them in Cross-street. Close at hand has lately been added a handsome pile of building, which the architect calls "English Gothic treated in the Continental manner." This building is to contain the schools of the Independent Dissenters.

Over the doorway is the following text:—"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." On the top of the side facing the Quay, let in the brickwork in the Mediæval style, are the words, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." Again, on the front facing Cross-street, we see, similarly set, "Congregational Jubilee School, erected A.D. MDCCCLIX." The roof is very steep, and is surmounted by a bell cupola, with small spire vane, rising to the height of seventy feet. The last quarterly report of the Exeter Diocesan Society contains a critique upon this building, in which it is described as a successful adaptation of mediæval architecture to modern purposes.

TOMB OF QUEEN CATHERINE PARR.

AFTER the death of King Henry VIII., Catherine Parr bestowed her hand on Admiral Seymour, who, prior to her marriage with "wife-killing Hal," had paid her assiduous court. Queen Catherine at her death was buried in the chapel of Sudeley Castle, Gloucestershire, at that time the property of the Admiral. Eventually the estate came into the possession of J. C. Dent, Esq., by purchase, who, finding the tomb of the Queen destroyed, had the body exhumed and caused it to be reburied beneath the monument erected at his expense, of which we give an Engraving. The tomb is from the design of G. G. Scott, Esq., and the effigy is from the studio of J. B. Phillip, of Roehampton-place, Pimlico. The base and cornice mouldings are in polished red Devonshire marble, the tracery and badges of the four husbands of Catherine Parr are in alabaster.

HYSTERIA AND REVIVALS.

I WAS myself present, in a Presbyterian meeting-house, at a prayer, offered with the most frenzied excitement and gesticulations, that God would then and there descend and strike all the unconverted to the earth. That prayer was accompanied throughout by a storm of cries, and groans, and exclamations, and amens, all having the true hysterical sound. This was the most frightful scene I have witnessed in life; at the moment of the awful command to the Almighty to come down and strike, it was perfectly terrific. No such scene would be permitted in any Bedlam upon earth. Presence at such a prayer could be redeemed from guilt only by the purpose of warning. I have many terrible recollections of life, but this prayer is the most frightful of them all.

There can be no doubt that in places of worship which have become famous through their hysterical cases, or in which hysteria is prayed for, the production of it is an object desired and aimed at in the preaching.

One sermon which I heard impressed me forcibly with the conviction that the preacher had carefully studied how hysteria might be produced. An account may be as instructive to others as that sermon was to me.

The preacher's natural qualifications appeared to be but small. His manner was cold, dry, unimpassioned. His voice was naturally good, and, like his action, appeared to have been carefully studied! His tones were unnatural, as if the peculiar cry of hysteria had been taken as a model. He did not appear possessed either of intellectual or sympathetic power. He reminded me of Feuchtersleben's description of hysterical men—"for the most part effeminate."

It was on the part of Dives and Lazarus. There was nothing of the love of Christ, nor of the guilt of sin; there was nothing to awaken conscience. Hell! h-e-l-l! he—e—ll! was the one cry, and the sole object aimed at was to produce a sensation of intensified torture of physical self-feeling. Remarkable as this sermon was for the paucity and smallness of ideas, it could not be wholly without ideas; but passages were. After the part above described came a passage in which "the existence of Dives" and "endless duration" were put together, repeated again, transposed, reversed, inverted with infinite variety and art, until nothing in the nature of an idea to occupy the mind remained—nothing but the prolongation of the physical self-feeling of agony. This part of the sermon struck me as the most laboured and studied piece of composition I ever listened to. The skill shown in the wording was great, and the whole object of the study appeared to be the elimination of every idea or thought. It was evidently here the chief labour of preparation had been bestowed; and it was precisely here, where every idea had disappeared, that the preacher bestowed the whole force of voice, and tone, and gesture—a fact which I had observed in other sermons before.

Accustomed to reflect on every intellectual excitement and every true emotional feeling by which hysterical action can be counteracted, I had sat down to watch and track the process by which hysteria can be produced. Precisely as I expected, when all sense and meaning was gone, the preacher had his base and unmanly triumph in evoking a wild and long-continued scream of hysterical agony, which, as it rose more and more, and thrilled more and more, did effectually silence the preacher, and left him standing in his pulpit with a most self-satisfied air, until the woman's removal enabled him to proceed.

That thrilling cry of agony—that cold-blooded outrage upon the moral nature of woman—did awaken in me the strongest feeling of indignation that has ever filled my breast.

The preacher, before giving out his text, requested that if any cases occurred the congregation would be quiet, and leave it to the office-bearers of the church, who had made full preparation for their reception. While the preacher was urging, with the peculiar pointing of the hand before described, "Your ease is as bad as hell can make it," a poor girl cried and fell. In reproving the excitement which followed, the preacher said, "God is doing His work in that individual."

When the sermon closed I obtained admission to the room to which this girl was had been carried, pursuant to the arrangements announced by the preacher. The room was small, and very narrow, and stifling—no air, no water was there.

A more pitiable sight I never saw. This girl was about fifteen years of age, or, perhaps, a year or two older; her frame was weak and thin, her small hands stained and ground with hard work, her skin delicate and transparent, her hair and eyelashes long and dark, her neck marked with scrofula, with a highly intellectual face, seldom seen in her class of life, except in weakly girls, and now made painfully interesting by the unearthly expression of cataleptic hysteria; every movement of the head and hands, every expression of the countenance, every moan was markedly hysterical. She had previously been struggling and screaming; she was now quiet, her lips sometimes moving, but inaudibly; she had spoken of the devil catching souls to throw them into hell, crying, "Away! you shan't have mine;" just the last impression made upon her failing mind.

I learned that this was the third attack that this poor girl had had in a short time, each being more severe than the former; so readily does the habit grow. I could have wept to see this sad disease superadded, in the name of religion and of the Holy Ghost, to a poor weak frame, a scrofulous habit, and a life of toil.

She was seated on a form, reclining in the arms of a coarse young man, about twenty years of age. He was no relation of hers, being ignorant of her name or residence. He seemed employed for the purpose, and related with apparent glee that before we came in it had taken all his strength to hold her in her struggles. In this small room, and gathered closely round her, were eight or ten young women, some of whom (perhaps all) had lately been hysterical, and two or three young men (not related to her), of whom one at least had been lately hysterical too. No elderly woman was there, nor any elderly man, except one who came in once or twice for a few minutes during the hour we remained there.

Just opposite, and touching her, sat a girl who had gone through the same kind of conversion two days before, and was now crying hysterically, but quietly. She was well dressed for a mill-girl, having showy bracelets and several rings upon her fingers, notwithstanding her so recent conversion.

The young man who held the patient, and who seemed quite used to that employment, grinned with professional pleasure as he exhibited to us the points of the case, and explained his treatment.—*Archdeacon Stopford's Pamphlet on the Irish Revivals.*

A NEW APPARATUS, invented by M. Bigolier, for stopping a locomotive in the midst of its speed almost instantaneously, was exhibited last week at Lyons. Its power was acknowledged to be superior to any of those machines which have hitherto been introduced, and there is every probability of its becoming employed upon all the lines in France.

THE STRIKE AND LOCK-OUT.

INTENDED OPENING OF THE WORKSHOPS.

THE Central Association of Master Builders determined at their meeting, which was held on Tuesday at the Freemasons' Tavern, to declare the yards of all the members of the association open from and after Monday next. The masters have also resolved to stand by the declaration "pure and simple," and to consent to the abandonment neither of book, counterfoil, nor number.

The foremen connected with the principal building-yards now closed have proposed a mediation on the following terms:—That this meeting agree to recommend the masters so to modify the present declaration as to dispense with the proposed book and so-called counterfoil altogether, and make the condition a shop rule only, that on the engagement between foreman and workman it be clearly understood that the shop is supplied with non-society men.

OUR COPPER COINAGE.

OUR copper coinage, which has lately been under the investigation of the Government, has been found to be in a very bad condition. A considerable part of it is very old, more than one-fifth of it bearing date between 1797 and 1805. It varies very much in weight, and although the practical inconvenience is perhaps not very great, because the public are familiar with it, yet if an old and new penny were shown to persons unacquainted with them no one would ever imagine that they represented the same value. Intrinsically the old penny is worth almost half as much again as the new one. The old penny was coined at the rate of sixteen to the pound, and the lightest of the new ones at twenty-six to the pound. Only 15 per cent of our copper coins date since 1852. The entire value of the copper coins now in circulation is £800,000, and the quantity of copper is 3530 tons. Taking the copper at £107 10s., the actual intrinsic value is only £379,000; so that the copper coin is a pure token, the intrinsic value being less than one-half of the nominal value. In order properly to ascertain the state of the copper coinage a considerable quantity has been examined in the large towns. The copper coinage of the towns has been found to be better than that of the country, because old coins linger longer in the rural districts. The result of the investigation in London, Birmingham, and other large towns shows that about one-third of the whole is below its legal state, and should be withdrawn. A part of it is counterfeit, another part consists of foreign coins, and another part again is injured, battered, and marked according to the fancy of individuals. The result is that about one-third requires renewal. If it were renewed such as it now is a cost of nearly £40,000 would be incurred, but by the mode intended to be adopted by the Government, although an outlay of £50,000 will be required in the first instance, this expense will be entirely covered by the profit arising from the change of material and weight. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in his speech in Parliament, recently gave most of the details of the proposed change; he said that the coins, besides being very heavy and disagreeable to handle, communicated a smell which was very unpleasant, and it would be easy to substitute a much more convenient metal.

It would be an admirable practice to follow in the track of our Continental neighbours with respect to our copper coinage. The state of the old copper coinage of France was formerly much the same as our own; the coins had lost all signs of any edge, and were nothing more than rude-shaped lumps of metal. Within the last few years it has all been called in, and a bronze medal has been substituted. The result of the change in France was a profit of nearly £500,000; but no such profit can be expected in this country, as the quantity of our copper coins is not so great; but, relative to its extent, there is no reason why the operation should not leave a profit analogous to that of France. The new copper coinage will not affect any question of the currency or computation. It will leave all such matters exactly where they were; nor will it have anything to do with the decimal question; it will merely be the substitution for the present coins of pieces harder and more convenient. The effect of improving the copper coinage will be to produce a largely increased demand for it. In Paris the increase of demand after the new coins were issued was 50 per cent. This experience is very encouraging, as a larger demand will be attended with increased profit.

The metal proposed to be used for the new coins is bronze, containing four parts of tin and one of zinc to 95 parts of copper, which will be increased in hardness by the alloy. The quantity of copper now coined into twenty-six of the old pence will make forty-five of the new ones. If the 3500 tons of the old copper were called in and recoined, the profit would be about £92,000; but if there was an increased demand for the new coin to the amount of 25 or 30 per cent, a much greater profit would be left on the operation. One of the greatest advantages of the new coin will be its superior durability. The use of bronze is not new to the Mint, the metal having been used for coinage in Canada and Nova Scotia, and the new issue here will resemble the coinage of those colonies. Experiments, it is understood, have been made with a view to ascertain whether aluminium bronzes would be more suitable; but it has been found that bronze mixtures varying from five to ten per cent of aluminium tarnished rapidly in wear, and were, besides, too costly for adoption.

THE CHARING CROSS RAILWAY.

IT is confidently stated that within two years from the present time the most important public work which has been projected during a long period will, with some suggested improvements, be completed. We refer to the extension of the South-Eastern and the railways which terminate at London-bridge to Charing-cross, the very heart of the traffic by which they are mainly supplied from the west of London. The benefit to the rest of the metropolis, and more especially to those parts which are now its most crowded thoroughfares, which will be afforded by the construction of this important work, cannot be too highly estimated. Fleet-street, Ludgate-hill, Cheapside, the Poultry, King William-street, and the thoroughfares leading into them, will be relieved of more than half the conveyances which now carry, with infinite loss of time, their passengers to the London-bridge station.

This great public improvement will be effected at a cost of not more than one million, including the purchase of the required property, the building of the bridge over the Thames, and the construction of the necessary stations. Of this sum the South-Eastern Railway proprietors, at their meeting, held on Thursday week, agreed to subscribe £300,000, the South-Eastern Company guaranteeing $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent upon the amount of the shares. More than half the required amount of the capital has been subscribed before any application has been made to the public to take up the shares. There appears to be no reason for fearing that the estimated cost for the construction of the line will be exceeded. The estimates underwent most extraordinary scrutiny before the Committees of both Houses of Parliament, and the opposing engineers were perfectly ready to admit the sufficiency of the estimates. A sum of not less than at the rate of £11 per square yard was set down as the value of the property to be purchased, which was as much as £6 more than that estimated for the purchase of property required for making the new street in Southwark, under the direction of the Metropolitan Board of Works, and which, in a very great degree, is of the same description as that which will be taken for the railway on the south side of the river.

The purchase of Hungerford Market has, of course, swollen the estimates very considerably; but, as that property was bought provisionally before the bill was passed, the amount was already known and was correctly included in the estimate. Mr. Hawkshaw, the engineer to the company, is now engaged in the preparation of the working plans for the bridge over the Thames. It is proposed that the bridge shall consist of four lines of rails, instead of two, as originally calculated for in the estimates, and this will increase the cost of the works by about £50,000. But it will no doubt be considered advisable by the board to incur this increased outlay at first, rather than be compelled, in two or three years at a much greater, to make the necessary widening of the structure. The two existing piers of Hungerford-bridge, which will be used for the new one, are of sufficient width, if carried up from their lower part, to admit of a roadway of four lines of rails. The footpaths on either side will overhang the piers. The bridge will be supported by five piers, and will be as light in its appearance as the nature of such a work will admit of. In connection with the bridge there will be a spacious landing-place for steam-boat passengers, with a broad flight of steps conducting to the railway station, and footways on each side of the railway-bridge. The revenues derived from foot passengers, and from persons using the landing-pier, will be the property of the Charing-cross Company. The arches of the railway will be so constructed as to admit of their being made tenable, and a revenue of £5000, it is estimated, will be derived from that source.

THE BALLOON RACES AT CREMORNE.—Those of our readers who attended the juvenile festival of last Thursday, when the daily press was complimented by twelve balloons, will feel interested in the particulars which have been transmitted to the secretary in reference to the destination of some of them. Four—the Post, Advertiser, Herald, and Times—came down in Kent, respectively, 33, 42, 56, and 65 miles from London, the Post having been carried along at the rate of 120 miles an hour, if the time it was found has been stated correctly. The fifth, supposed to be the Telegraph, and which was drawn by a young lady of the name of Harper, bore on over the Channel, eventually taking repose on an estate eight miles south of Calais.

Literature.

Popular Music of the Olden Time. By W. CHAPPELL. Cramer, Beale, and Chappell.

It has been so generally agreed that England has no national music that many on seeing Mr. Chappell's two large quarto volumes will wonder where he found materials to till them. "Popular Music of the Olden Time" (meaning popular English music of the olden time) is the title of the work, and England has no popular tunes! This looks more than making bricks without straw; it is like making them without clay. Ireland has national airs, and so has Wales, and, above all, Scotland; but we should no more look for characteristic melodies belonging to England than for a Londoner speaking with a Scotch accent or an Irish brogue. Some have accounted for England's want of national music by saying that England is not a mountainous country (an argument worthy of Mr. Buckle); but neither is Ireland; besides which, Madame Sand has taken the trouble to show that there are airs for the mountains and airs for the plains—the former (according to Madame Sand) being in the major, the latter in the minor, mode. The theory which assigns one mode to mountainous, and another to flat-country, tunes is not more absurd than the notion that England is deficient in popular native melodies, of which, according to Mr. Chappell's showing, it possesses a far larger number than either of the sister kingdoms. The fact is that many of the songs of Burns, Allan Ramsay, and other Scotch poets are written to English tunes, which, now being known by the words, pass with the world for Scotch. In Ramsay's collection, "My mither's ay glowran o'er me" to the country dance of "A health to Betty;" "The Maitman comes on Monday" to the tune of "Roger de Coverley;" "Peggy, I must love thee," to the tune of "The Deel assist the plotting Whigs," composed by Purcell; "The bonny grey-eyed morn begins to peep" to the tune of "an excellent new playhouse song" called "The bonny grey-eyed morn," or "Jockey rous'd with love," composed by Jeremiah Clark; "Corn rigs are bonny" to the tune of "Sawney was tall and of noble race," a song in D'Urfe's play, "The Virtuous Wife;" "Nanny, O," to the tune of the English ballad of the same name, are instances of this; and Mr. Chappell tell us "that, if this kind of scrutiny were carried through the songs in the 'Teataval Miscellany,' in Thomson's 'Orpheus Caledonius,' or any similar collection, the bulk of Scottish music would be sensibly diminished; but that, on the whole, it would gain in symmetry. Many good and popular tunes would be given up, but a mass of indifferent would be rejected at the same time."

As many English airs were introduced into Scotland as early as the fifteenth century, and were in due time naturalised there, considerable difficulty must occasionally be experienced in proving beyond doubt the English origin of some so-called Scotch airs which certainly belong to England; but in these cases Mr. Chappell shrinks from no trouble, and does not rest until he has shown by a careful comparison of dates, and by whatever corroborative evidence he can collect, in which country the melody in dispute first made its appearance, and, if possible, who composed it. In the case of English airs which now pass for Irish, it is seldom that such a laborious examination is necessary, for almost all of these are found for the first time in an Hibernian dress in the "melodies" of Thomas Moore, who did not, however, confine himself to the appropriation of English airs, but also, as is well known, laid under contribution the national music of Italy, Sicily, Portugal, Russia, and other countries.

Let us now mention a few of the most popular tunes which Mr. Chappell has rescued from the Scotch and Irish and restored to their native land. To begin with the Scotch, it will astonish many persons to hear that "The blue bell of Scotland" belongs undoubtedly to England. It is printed by Ribson in his "North Country Chorister," 1802, under the title of the "New Highland Lad," and the editor says in a note: "This song has been lately introduced upon the stage by Mrs. Jordan, who knew neither the words nor the music." As to the words, however, the verses—Mr. Chappell tell us—were not all fit for the stage, and Mrs. Jordan, after selecting four, made trifling alterations in them and sang them to a tune of her own, by which the old tune has now been entirely superseded. "The blue bells of Scotland, a favourite ballad, as composed and sung by Mrs. Jordan at the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane," was entered at Stationers' Hall on the 13th of May, 1800, and the music published by Longman and Co. "Jock o' Hazeldean," "John Anderson, my jo," "Ye Banks and Braes," and upwards of a dozen other airs, usually thought to be Scotch, might be cited, of which it is impossible to deny the English origin. To show with what little scruple the nationality of an air was changed Mr. Chappell mentions that the well-known country dance and nursery song, "Polly put the kettle on," was transformed into a Scotch tune for the "Museum" in 1797. Some of the collectors of Scottish songs professed to include only Scotch poetry, but in many cases they merely Caledonianised English words, while taking the English music note for note. Thus, a pantomime having been brought out in London during the Christmas of 1795, which contained the song—

If a body meet a body going to the fair,
If a body kiss a body, need a body care?
Gin a body meet a body comin' thro' the rye,
Gin a body kiss a body, need a body cry?

And in the present day vocalists who devote themselves especially to the execution of Scotch music feel it necessary, in singing "Gin a body," &c., to wear a plaid scarf, and to adorn the words with a more or less genuine Scotch accent. To those who, from having always associated with a particular melody a particular sentiment, believe in the intrinsic expressiveness of music, it will be perplexing to find that airs they have been in the habit of regarding as thoroughly and characteristically Scotch or Irish are completely English; and more than perplexing to learn that some of the most plaintive songs we have are only lively dance-tunes with pathetic words written to them. The hack composers of the present day may be said to reverse the latter process. Instead of giving an emotional character to jigs and country dances, they take the most beautiful airs they can find in modern operas to contract and distort them into polkas, waltzes, and quadrilles.

Most of the appropriation of English airs by Irish composers and song-writers has taken place since Thomas Moore's time, and for a large portion of it Thomas Moore is himself answerable. In some cases the Irish song-writer adapted his words to foreign airs without attempting to conceal the true origin of the latter. On the contrary, he for the most part states explicitly from what source he derives them; and it is not fault of Moore's if, through the happy appropriateness of his verses and the intimate alliance he has effected between them and the music, such lyrics as "Those evening bells" (to quote the first example that occurs to us), of which the tune is Portuguese, should at last have come to be regarded as Irish in all respects. Occasionally, however, when Moore fancied he recognised under an English name an Irish air that had unaccountably strayed from its native land, he claimed it for his own country upon internal evidence alone, and, as Mr. Chappell clearly points out, upon internal evidence that was of no value. Thus he took the melody of "The Cruiskeen Laun" to be Irish, judging from the repetition of the final notes, which, according to him (and also to many other persons) is an unmistakable, Hibernian characteristic.

"I attached formerly," says Mr. Chappell, "greater importance than now to the terminations of tunes as national characteristics; for, although certain closes may prevail over others in a nation, it is very difficult to assign an exclusive right to any. The fashion of the age, the character of the words, the style of the song, have all their influences. A bass voice will drop a fifth, and it will be one way on one instrument, and another on another. Certain tunes finish on the second of the key, others on the fourth; but it is really because they are *unfinished*—intended to be repeated. Some end on the third and fifth, from fancy, or from having a monosyllable at the end, like 'Sir' in 'The Baffled Knight.' I do not now think that any rules are to be given which will not be open to many exceptions."

"Moore has claimed several airs as Irish because they have the repre-

tion, 'tum-tum,' or 'tum-tum-tum,' on the same note at the end, and this even when in opposition to all external evidence. There are undoubtedly many Irish airs that have that termination, but it is by no means a peculiarity. Although long out of fashion with English musicians, there are numberless such tunes still to be heard among the lower orders. It was a common country-dance ending in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and remained so till within the last twenty years. If we look to the earliest Irish tunes it is not to be found, yet English of the same date have it. For instance, in Queen Elizabeth's 'Virginal Book' there are three Irish airs which, having never been quoted or printed, I now submit to my readers."

Among other well-known airs which are generally believed to be Irish, but which are certainly English, and of which the English origin was not denied until the time of Moore, are—"My lodging is on the cold ground," and "The girl I left behind me."

In showing what good service Mr. Chappell has rendered to English music by restoring to it the beautiful melodies of which it has been deprived by Scotland and Ireland, we only call attention to one feature in the book—to the one which first struck us, but probably not that which will possess most interest for the majority of readers. The work is a collection of the whole of our national airs, with the nationality verified in every case in which any doubt on the subject can be entertained, and with the variations indicated wherever there has been any departure from the original melody, or when the notes of the melody as generally accepted in the present day do not agree with those of the established form of the time. It also contains a fair account of our ballad-literature, and a number of very interesting particulars concerning the pastimes and holiday life of our ancestors, and shows with remarkable felicity (as in the case of the Puritans and of the time-beating, dance-loving Charles II.) the effect that historical personages and events have had upon musical forms, and even upon essential music, or melody. In the concluding remarks we find something like an attempt to describe the characteristics of our national airs—an attempt which we should like to see attended with success. However, Mr. Chappell does succeed in pointing out certain supposed points of difference between English and Irish airs which, in fact, are not points of difference at all; and he certainly knows a true English tune better than any one, though he cannot always tell us by what features he recognises it. Doubtless, too, Mr. Chappell is right in attributing most of the characteristics of national airs to the peculiarities of the instruments in use in the countries where those airs have originated. "Some influence," says the *Quarterly Review*, "with delightful naïveté, and as if it had made the discovery itself, 'may safely be ascribed to the character of the instruments among the people.' In Spain, where the guitar is the popular instrument, the airs have generally no sustained notes. Swiss airs suggest the horn. 'The Campbells are coming' is evidently (according to us) an air for the bagpipes. Hornpipes and other English airs seem to have been composed for the fiddle which, Mr. Chappell tells us, is (with the pipe) our national instrument. Mr. Chappell's theory is scarcely interfered with by the fact that the gypsies of Hungary and of Russia, and the peasants of the Danubian Principalities, play the *guzla*, the *balalaika*, and other stringed instruments, and sing melodies which are full of sustained cantabile passages—the reconciliatory explanation being that they only use their instruments to accompany themselves with.

In conclusion, we may recommend Mr. Chappell's volumes, not only for the instruction and entertainment they will afford to the general reader, but as an indispensable guide for all who take any interest in the national music of England. The subject has never been treated before either so completely or with so much discrimination and taste. In Mr. Chappell's "National English Airs" (published fourteen years ago, and which was then by far the most complete collection of the kind) there were 245 airs. In the present volume there are upwards of 400. Of these, 200 are contained in the first volume, which extends to the reign of Charles I. This portion of the work is offered as a collection; but the number of airs extant of later date is so much larger than that of the earlier period that the second volume can be viewed only in the light of a selection. "To have made it upon the same scale as the first," says the author, "would have occupied at least three volumes instead of one. My endeavour has therefore been to give as much variety of character as possible, but especially to include those airs which were popular as ballad-tunes. Some of those contained in the old collection have now given place to others of more general interest, but more than 200 are retained. Every air has been reharmonised upon a simple and consistent plan; the introductions to the various reigns have been added, and nearly every line in the book has been rewritten."

We must add that the accompaniments have been furnished by Mr. G. A. Macfarren, than whom it would have been impossible to find a composer better suited to the task. What was required was not merely harmonic science, but a thorough knowledge and appreciation of the characteristic points of an English tune; and no one possesses these in a higher degree than the composer of "May Day."

A Life for a Life. By the Author of "John Halifax, Gentleman." 3 Vols. Hurst and Blackett.

We are of opinion that the "Ogilvies," with all its faults, was the most living and vigorous of all Miss Mulock's stories; that "John Halifax" is, on the whole, the best; and that the present work is neither an advance on her previous productions nor the contrary. It leaves her reputation, we think, just where it was—that is, as high as it was left by the publication of "John Halifax," minus a deduction as to force and clearness of thought, and even as to moral courage, on account of the "Woman's Thoughts about Women," which gave us facilities for taking her measure in particulars in which a story affords many a hiding-place and nook of refuge. The novel before us is most carefully written, and pure, though we think mistaken, in purpose. It contains some very nice character-sketching, some pleasant conversation-pieces, and some clear and lively description. It has also a plot of great interest; it is very affecting; and, although its moral, philosophically stated, is ridiculous, its indirect teaching (i.e., the teaching represented by the total result of reading the book) is good. *Probatum est*—we ourselves feel after reading it as if we should try to be better. As to the general characteristics of the writing, they are precisely those we know of old. The style is interrupted, and, though clear, with little breaks, supplements, and reticences that are very curious. We are sometimes tempted to say it is a frosty, ill-tempered style. It wants—not merely as a matter of taste, but as a matter weighing on the reader's feelings as he reads—it wants the sweep and fulness and concentrated straightforwardness of abandonment to the theme. We feel we have not, so to speak, got well hold of the author, for all her sincerity. Largely she bestows on us her thoughts and feelings through her imaginary characters, but where is herself all the while?

Not what we give, but what we share;
For the gift without the giver is bare.

That is the perfect rule, and these books do not exemplify it. As for minor matters, the characters have too much (*we fancy*) the old knack (old in Miss Mulock's books) of tacking their feelings on to their reading; and—but that is enough, too much, of the sort. We are a base, ungrateful critic, and will proceed from trifles, in which we can fairly keep silence, to greater things in which we *cannot*.

First of all, though stories enforcing the right of conscience to be obeyed at all costs must surely do some good, and though every author is entitled to work as freely as may be fair to his or her own peculiar vein of comment upon life and conduct, we begin to have doubts whether our lady storytellers, with Miss Mulock to lead them, are not overdoing this repression-of-feeling business. Miss Mulock's heroes and heroines nearly all appeal for sympathy upon the ground of sitting down upon themselves for years with terrible hydraulic pressure, and are at last dismissed with as much happiness "as you might take upon a knife's point and choke a daw withal" for reward of virtue—like

farm labourers with sovereign prizes for long years of virtuous agriculture, leaving them infirm and sucked dry—for this last is the condition to which your repression-of-feeling novelist reduces the happy pair before they get their prize for good behaviour. Grey hairs and thin, pale faces they have, as we are plainly told. But what does all that imply? Why, these poor creatures have gone through enough to bring them in need of medical treatment for the rest of their lives, and they go and get—married instead of nursed! Max Urquhart and his bride must have been suffering, between them, from the whole catalogue of mortal ills which the *Revalenta Arabica* and *Cockle's Pills* are destined to extirpate from the human constitution. Disease of the heart, dyspepsia, chronic headache, general debility, lassitude, indisposition for business, sleeplessness, nausea, singing in the ears, and the rest of it—we confidently appeal to the experience of any one who has ever suffered six months of balked passion whether the strongest constitution could escape such symptoms as the above, under such circumstances as those of Max and Dora, whatever the occupations or the self-control of the individual? And the moral of this appeal of ours is not that people are never to deny themselves, but that, when a novelist has dragged her pair of lovers through so many years of wretchedness (from sitting down on themselves) that they must be in a condition of chronic jaundice, she should not wind up her story with even muffled "joy-bells" without at least giving the wretched pair of dyspeptics six months of cold-water cure to start them afresh. There is, indeed, an important question suggested by these repression-of-feeling stories in general—namely, What are the limits of this "self-sacrifice," which is, if novelists paint it truly, the Moloch of modern life? Charlotte Brontë (in a passage much quoted, but to which our memory does not enable us to refer) once put the same question, and suggested that it might be worth while to try the effect of standing up, all of us, for our rights a bit, instead of keeping on this "self-renunciation" business, which does not seem to answer. Seriously, what are the limits of self-sacrifice? As a privilege of love it has none at all. But as a duty? Has Miss Mulock any clear idea of why Theodora was bound to wait, or why she did wait, to use her own words, "ever so long" for Max? How long is "ever so long?" Five years. But why five years any more than five weeks? Required, a moral gauge for the difference between the "ever so long" of a murderer going to be hanged and the "ever so long" of a lover going to be married? We pause for a reply. If anybody says, "Oh, you are splitting hairs; practically these matters are easily settled," we answer, Then why these lugubrious tales, all presupposing the extreme difficulty with which they are settled? We are quite sure that no thoroughly healthy, happy mind ever enjoys writing such tales, and sadly afraid they tend to get young readers into morbid ways of looking at life and duty, from which the reaction is either in crude self-indulgence or cynicism, or both.

The lesson taught by this novel in the punishment awarded to Mr. Urquhart is one which totally mistakes the nature of moral law, and confounds real and technical "justice" together with an indiscriminating which the most ignorant might envy. If Max was bound to give himself up to "justice," Theodora was bound to help "justice" to find him; and the mother who bore him would have been equally bound, if living, to do the same. Is that so? Let us look a little closer at the story.

Maximilian Urquhart, "a raw Scotch lad," going to France to see a dying brother, is intercepted by a drinking party, where an Englishman of thirty, named Johnston, cruelly insulted him:

THE CRIME.

They turned me out—the obstinate, drunken, infuriated lad—into the street.

I staggered through the dark, silent town, into a lane, and fell asleep on the roadside.

The next thing I call to mind is being awakened by the cut of a whip across my shoulders, and seeing a man standing over me. I flew at his throat like a wild creature: for it was he—the "gentleman" who had made me drunk, and mocked me; and whom I seemed then and there to hate with a fury of hatred that would last to my dying day. Through it all came the thought of Dallas, sick and solitary, half way towards whom I ought to have travelled by now.

How he—the man—soothed me, I do not know, but I think it was by offering to take me towards Dallas; he had a horse and gig standing by, and said if I would mount, he would drive me to the coast, whence I could take boat to France. At least, that is the vague impression my mind retains of what passed between us. He helped me up beside him, and I dozed off to sleep again.

My next wakening was in the middle of a desolate plain. I rubbed my eyes, but saw nothing except stars and sky, and this black, black plain, which seemed to have no end.

He pulled up, and told me to "tumble out," which I did mechanically. On the other side of the gig was something tall and dark, which I took at first for a half way inn; but perceived it was only a huge stone—a circle of stones.

"Hollo! what's this?"

"Stonehenge! comfortable lodging for man and beast; so you're all right. Good-bye, young fellow. You're such dull company, that I mean to leave you here till morning."

This was what he said to me, laughing uproariously. At first, I thought he was in jest, and laughed too; then, being sleepy and maudlin, I remonstrated. Lastly, I got half frightened, for when I tried to mount, he pushed me down. I was so helpless, and he so strong; from this solitary place, miles and miles from any human dwelling—how should I get on to Dallas?—Dallas, who, stupefied as I was, still remained my prominent thought.

I begged, as if I had been begging for my life, that he would keep his promise, and take me on my way towards my brother.

"To the devil with your brother!" and he whipped his horse on.

The devil was in me, as I said. I sprang at him, my strength doubled and trebled with rage, and, catching him unawares, dragged him from the gig, and threw him violently on the ground; his head struck against one of the great stones—and—and—

Now, you see how it was. I murdered him. He must have died easily—instantaneously; he never moaned nor stirred once; but, for all that, it was murder.

Not with intent, God knows. So little idea had I he was dead, that I shook him as he lay, told him to "get up and fight it out!" oh, my God!—my God!

Finding the two-legged brute really dead, poor, half-intoxicated Max fled to France, learned that his brother was no more, and for a year lost his reason. On recovering himself he kept his secret, and resolved to devote his existence to the service of his fellow-creatures, denying himself wife, recreation, pleasure of all kinds, and so giving "a life for a life." Eventually, however, he falls in love with a lady, who proves to be the half-sister of the dead dog above named; and, after difficulties with her idiotic parent, who entertains such ideas of blood for blood as never yet were entertained by human creature out of Bedlam, confesses his "crime," gets three months' imprisonment, and, marrying Theodora, departs for Canada, the wreck of a man, with the wreck of a woman for a wife. The old clergyman—whose morale is of about the same rank as that of a Feejee Islander, and whose intellect is somewhat less clear—when he first knows that Max had "murdered" (!) his son, demands blood for blood, although Max (who is a medical man) had previously been instrumental in saving his own life. And the implied criticism of the authoress upon this monstrous demand is, that the old savage, in making his application of the Old Testament law, neglected to take into account the gracious limitations of the New. But the true criticism upon the whole of this wretched blue-fire-and-sulphur blundering is, that it is just making the imperfection of language the measure of justice. Killing a man may be anything whatever, from excusable homicide to cruel murder, in millions of billions of shades. The law "Thou shalt do no murder" applies to only one act out of all that number, or any possible number, and in that one case only could the penalty of murder be righteously inflicted. For every one of the other cases of the millions of billions, *ad infinitum*, a separate name is wanted, and a separate law; and, if human language and human institutions were perfect, they would be found. They are not, and cannot be found; but in the eye of Eternal Justice they exist, and we expect people who try to lead opinion to recognise, publicly, that Divine justice, and the justice of "an enlightened British jury" interpreting Moses, have no necessary connection. The true answer to the blood-thirsty old savage thumping his Bible was not, "Max has repented, and the Gospel mollifies the law in this matter of murder;" but "Max is

no murderer, and the law does not apply." In point of fact, that very thickheaded old man was the real murderer, because, to quote St. John's definition, he hated his brother.

We think Penelope was right in refusing to marry Mr. Chatteris, when she found out the previous *liaison*; but we also think she refused very unamazingly, and that the two elder sisters are both a little stiff and sulky in their virtue. Our Lisa, with all her emptiness, is the most loveable woman in the book. As for the attempts to make us like the Reverend Feejee Islander of a father, by bringing him in reluctantly at the last, we don't respond to them; we dismiss him covered with execrations, and feeling thankful that in our own very large and very close experiences of ministers and others of "the most straitest sect of our religion" we never knew such a cross-grained blockhead. It is almost burlesque to represent such a person as beloved even by his own daughters; and the question naturally occurs, how came he to be capable of sufficient tenderness to be liable to those gentle accidents which lead to domestic ties? But, probably, a person so brutally technical in his constructions would have thought only of Gen. i. 28, and loved by word of command.

How is it that, with one exception—the passage about dinner parties, on page 167—there is not, we believe, a touch of even the quietest humour from beginning to end of this book? Unless we take the unconscious humour of the following, about jealousy:

"MY THEORY" OF JEALOUSY.

Truly, Lisabel and her unfortunate swains remind me of a passage in Thomson's "Seasons," describing two young bulls fighting in a meadow—

"While the fair heifer balmy-breathing near,
Stands kindling up their rage."

I blush to set it down. I blush almost to have such a thought, and concerning my own sister; yet it is so, and I have seen the like often and often. Surely it must be wrong; such sacred things as women's beauty and women's love were not made to set men mad at one another like brute beasts. Surely the woman could help it if she chose. Men may be jealous, and cross, and wretched, but they do not absolutely hate one another on a woman's account unless she has been in some degree to blame. While free and showing no preference no one can well fight about her, for all have an equal chance; when she has a preference, though she might not openly show it towards its object, she certainly would never think of showing it towards anybody else. At least that is my theory.

Lady bright! permit us to tell you that your "theory" is mistaken. Men can, and do absolutely hate one another, sometimes, for a woman who has not done wrong, they themselves being, one or both, as good as either of your model heroes—say Max Urquhart, or Ninian Greme. But we think you improving in your knowledge of the masculine line, and the following is very natural and good:—

"THE MIGHTY HUNGER OF THE HEART."

I want her—I crave her; my very heart and soul are hungry for her! Not as a brief possession, like gathering a flower and wearying of it, or throwing it away. I want her for always—to have her morning, noon, and night; day after day and year after year; happy or sorrowful, good or faulty, young or old; only mine, mine! I feel sometimes as if, found thus in all, all eternity could not give me enough of her. It is not the body she inhabits,—though, from head to foot, my love is all fair, fair as daylight and pure as snow—it is herself I want, ever close at hand to be the better self of this me, who have tried vainly all these years to stand alone, to live and endure alone! Folly!—proud folly! such is not a natural state of things; God himself said, "It is not good for man to be alone."

Celiebs the Younger in Search of a Wife; or, the Drawingroom Troubles of Moody Robinson, Esq. Illustrated by C. A. DOYLE. James Hogg and Sons.

The illustrations of this smart-looking book are better than the letter-press, which has all or part appeared before in *Hogg's Instructor* and *Titan*, and consists of very poor rhymed versions of old stories. The author makes a good many blunders, and appears to think that the name of Purcell the composer is spelt Pearsall. We give him the benefit of the best verse in his book, in which the fun, however, has a quite accidental appearance:—

And as he breathes
Of its cloudy wreaths,
It satisfies his inner
Sense of taste,
Without the waste
Of eating a costly dinner.

LAND REVENUES.—In the year 1858-59 the total cash receipts on the "capital" account of the Land Revenue Department appear to have amounted to £298,636 (exclusive of balance), and the total (cash) expenditure to £299,045 (exclusive of balances). Under the "income" account the receipts were £417,868 (exclusive of balances), and the expenditure £412,689 (including the payment) to the Consolidated Fund. £280,040 was paid into the Exchequer, and the net available balance at the close of the year amounted to £34,082. The net surplus that was paid to the Exchequer in each year up to and including 1851-52, and that would have been payable to the Exchequer in each year subsequently to that date, if the salaries, &c., of the office of Woods, &c., had continued to be defrained out of the income of the land revenue, was £128,000. The salaries, expenses, and lawcharges of the office of Works and Buildings in 1858-59 amounted to £26,050 (paid out of land revenue), and the expenditure on Royal parks and gardens was £80,692.

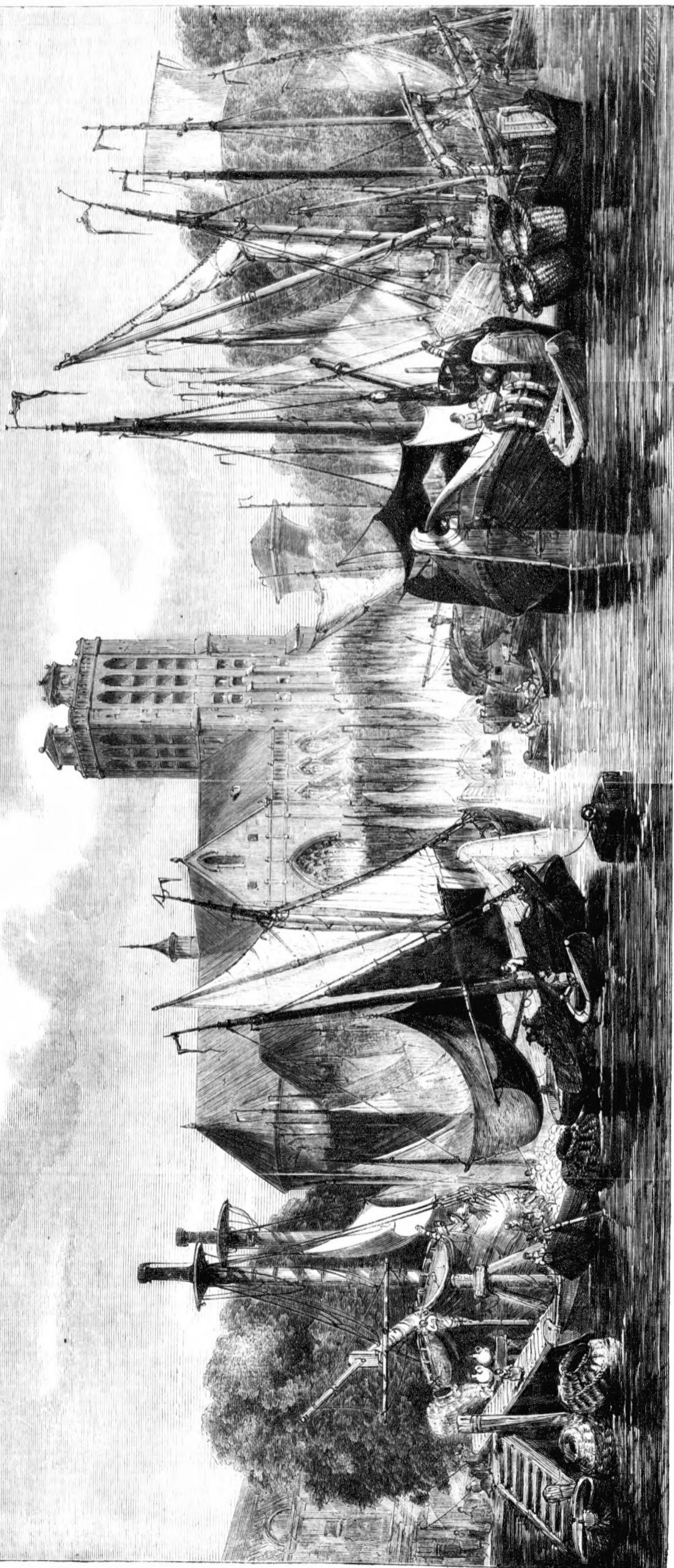
MURDER AT SEA.—The Margaret, of which Captain Barker was part owner, sailed from Hartlepool about three weeks or a month ago, bound for Pugwash, North America. She put in at Lisbon for the purpose of obtaining a cook, and a Spaniard was engaged, whereupon the voyage was renewed. The ship had only been at sea again three days, when, from some reason which at present is involved in mystery, the cook stole into the cabin in the night and murdered the captain by cutting his throat with a large knife when asleep. As soon as the outrage became known to the rest of the crew the murderer was placed in irons, and the mate took command of the vessel. On Wednesday she arrived at Falmouth, whence intelligence of the affair was immediately telegraphed to the brother of the deceased, and to the owners of the vessel. The captain's body was brought in with the vessel, having been preserved among the ballast.

DARING HIGHWAY ROBBERIES.—On Wednesday morning a gentleman (Mr. Winaers, of Hilgay), staying at the Bath Hotel, in Yarmouth, with his wife, went out at half-past six to bathe, leaving his wife in bed. On returning in about half an hour he discovered that some persons had entered the room and carried off from the table the lady's gold watch and chain and a gold pin, which had been lying there. The alarm was given, but no trace could be obtained to the robbery, except that one of the servants had seen a strange individual on the staircase, who requested to be shown to a closet, and shortly after, as the servant was coming out of one of the rooms, was seen by her to put his head out of the closet and draw it in again. The police were sent for, and one officer looked round the house, and of course discovered nothing. It was afterwards found that a purse containing £9 4s. 6d. was taken at the same time from under the looking-glass on the dressing-table. On Thursday morning a similar robbery was committed at the Royal Hotel, Norwich. A commercial traveller, Mr. W. Crighton, sleeping in the house, awoke at six o'clock and looked at his watch, which hung from a hook above his head, and, having gone to sleep again, on awakening about seven o'clock, saw a man backing out of the bedroom, evidently watching the occupant of the bed to see whether he had been disturbed. Thinking some gentleman had entered his room by mistake, Mr. Crighton allowed him to leave it unquestioned, but, the next instant missing his watch, rushed to the door and, seeing the person running as fast as he could down the stairs, followed him, and ultimately pursued him to the yard, where he was captured and brought back by some men. The watch was found on some boxes on the landing. The individual thus apprehended, who gave his name as Meyer Hirsch, a German, residing in London, and professed to be unable to speak English, was charged before the magistrates the same day, when one of the servants in the hotel stated that she saw the prisoner, after brushing his clothes in the passage, walk up stairs, after which she saw him up stairs, at the door of one of the rooms, and again a few minutes later at the bottom of the stairs, when he followed her, and tried the door of one room and afterwards went to two others. The prisoner said another man going down stairs at the same time as himself, dressed like himself. He was remanded for further inquiries.

DASHING THIEF.—At Southampton, on Monday night, a man smashed a pane of glass in the shop window of Mr. Manning, watchmaker, snatched three gold watches, and made off. The shop is opposite the post-office, and is situated in a populous thoroughfare. The thief was chased at once, and he had not run above a hundred yards before he tripped, fell down, and was caught with the watches on him. He has been committed for trial at the sessions.

* In its notice of "Popular Music of the Olden Time."

† See Liszt's "Lettre sur la Musique des Bohémiens."



THE HARBOUR OF DORT. (1: HOW A PICTURE BY G. V. ANDREWS.)

THE JOURNAL OF

Samuel Ward, Master of Sidney College; and Dr. Joseph Hall, then Dean of Worcester, but afterwards Bishop of Norwich. The synod was opened on November 13, 1618. It consisted of thirty-eight Dutch and Walloon divines, five professors of universities, and twenty-one lay elders; the foreign and was got up, as usual, with that taste and liberality which have hitherto contributed so much to the success of the laudable efforts of its originators. The weather, which had been extremely propitious for the rejoicing on their successful close, and the contemplated festivities were curtailed by repeated showers. The villagers, accompanied by the farmers and gentry of the parish, previously attended Divine service, when a special thanksgiving was offered up for the gathering of the harvest. The Psalms selected were the 23rd, the 65th, and the 147th, and the second lesson was taken from the 13th chapter of St. Matthew. Montgomery's "Harvest Hymn" was also sung by the congregation to the air of the National Anthem.

But to return to the town. It has a safe and good harbour (which has received Mr. Andrews with the subject for a good picture), is well situated for commerce, having two canals, by means of which goods can be conveyed to warehouses in the heart of the city. The principal trade is that of corn and wood; large rafts of the latter are brought down the Rhine to this place, Dordt, in addition to its having been the town in which the famous synod of 1618, in addition to being the birthplace of Gerard Vossius and the brothers Puddings. The number of harvest labourers who partook of the feast was 224, of whom the majority were men. There were besides 146 children. The employers paid 1s. 6d. for each of the adults, and for this sum all the children were franked, the rest of the expenses being defrayed by a subscription. An excellent brass band had been engaged, and played during the repast, which was disposed off with the keen relish of a rustic appetite exercised upon good English fare. The scene derived additional gaiety from the presence of a number of ladies on the ground.

After dinner had been concluded, and the usual loyal toasts drunk, Dr. Beal called upon the company to drink "Long life and prosperity to their friend and landlord, the Rev. J. Holmes, of Brooke-hill." Mr. Holmes responded, and other toasts were drunk. Pipes and tobacco were then introduced for the labourers, some dances were got up on the green, and the rest of the evening was spent in such amusements as the state of the weather allowed. The children had a "merry-go-round" in an adjoining field, and other sports adapted to their age. The festival passed off with the utmost harmony and decorum, in every respect a striking contrast to the degrading incidents of former harvest celebrations.

THE BROOKE HARVEST-HOME, NORFOLK.

This annual festival, which may be called "the model harvest-home," as it inaugurated the reform of these village festivals from the gross and pernicious customs into which they had degenerated, was held on Friday last, and was got up, with all the taste and liberality which have hitherto contributed so much to the success of the laudable efforts of its originators. The weather, which had been extremely propitious for the rejoicing on their successful close, and the contemplated festivities were curtailed by repeated showers. The villagers, accompanied by the farmers and gentry of the parish, previously attended Divine service, when a special thanksgiving was offered up for the gathering of the harvest. The Psalms selected were the 23rd, the 65th, and the 147th, and the second lesson was taken from the 13th chapter of St. Matthew. Montgomery's "Harvest Hymn" was also sung by the congregation to the air of the National Anthem.

The vicarage grounds, in which the fete was held, presented a very animated sight. The tables were ranged semicircularly round the lawn, and were laden with an ample provision of substantial viands—cold joints and plum puddings. The number of harvest labourers who partook of the feast was 224, of whom the majority were men. There were besides 146 children. The employers paid 1s. 6d. for each of the adults, and for this sum all the children were franked, the rest of the expenses being defrayed by a subscription. An excellent brass band had been engaged, and played during the repast, which was disposed off with the keen relish of a rustic appetite exercised upon good English fare. The scene derived additional gaiety from the presence of a number of ladies on the ground.

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DORT. Dort, or Dordrecht, is a town of South Holland, situated on an island formed by the river Maas. Its isolation from the mainland was caused by an eruption of the waters in November, 1421. By this eruption the dykes were broken down, more than seventy villages were destroyed, and an immense number of the inhabitants were drowned. Dort is said to have been founded by Merocænus, in the fifth century; and there is little doubt but that it is one of the most ancient cities in Holland. Its situation is naturally of such strength that, although frequently invested, it has always made good its defence against the besiegers. But the most interesting feature in the history of Dort is the fact of the famous synod meeting here in 1618. This synod, which was an assembly of Protestant divines, was convened, under the influence of Prince Maurice of Nassau, to examine into the tenets of the Arminians. At this synod ecclesiastical deputies were present from most of the States of the United Provinces and from the Churches of England, Hesse, Bremen, Switzerland, and the Palatinate. Those from England were Dr. George Carleton, Bishop of Llandaff; Dr. John Darenant, professor of Divinity at Cambridge; Dr.



THE LITTLE BROTH'R

THE LITTLE BROTHER.*

Little brother in a cot,
Baby, baby!
Shall he have a pleasant lot?
May be, may be!
Little brother's in a nap,
Baby, baby!
Bless his tiny little cap,
Noise far away be!
With a rattle in his hand,
Baby, baby!
Dreaming—who can understand
Dreams like his, what they be?
When he wakes kiss him twice,
Then talk and gay be;
Little cheeks, soft and nice,
Baby, baby!
Pretty little pouting boy,
Baby, baby!
Let his life, with sweet and toy,
Pleasure all and play be.
Seven white angels watching here,
Baby, baby!
Pray be kind to baby dear,
Pray be, pray be!
Little brother in a cot,
Baby, baby!
His shall be a pleasant lot—
Must, not may be!

R.

* From a picture by Meyerkeim.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1859.

RIOTS IN CHURCHES.

If one offensive form taken by religious zeal in our days be the artificial production of hysteria in mill-girls, so there is another more peculiar to the metropolis—we mean rioting in church. It is not quite so disgusting as the first-named abuse, but it is highly improper all the same. When a clergyman shows eccentricity or obstinacy, the church in which he does this is not made the less sacred thereby; and to hoot, or yell at, or laugh at him is not the less sacrilegious and brutal on account of his weaknesses. Some people seem to think that the churches of this town, like its theatres, are proper places for applause or disapprobation—that a catcall might be brought into play during the Litany, and so forth. This is so far from being the case, that we will be bound to say that probably no class of men care less for religion in any shape than those who, under pretence of a zeal for Protestantism, raise a hubbub in a sacred building. The act is altogether without excuse, and should be punished like any public act of indecency by the magistrate.

Having expressed ourselves so frankly on this point, we require credit for a similar sincerity when we ask such clergymen as Mr. Lee and Mr. Bryan King (for of course we have St. George's-in-the-East in our eye) to consider how the mob acquires a *pretext* for such disorders as we have witnessed lately. Why are these gentlemen and their proceedings so unpopular? Here and there a fussy tradesman no doubt shows that notoriety and business are his objects in attacking their school of parsons, but how does such a man get better men than himself to back him up in his warfare? There must be some reason for it—for the deadly antipathy which our people show to the peculiarities which mark a Lee or a King's procedure. When it is explained, it will be worth while for these clergymen to decide whether such antipathy is not too deeply grounded to be removed; and, such being the case, whether in a fight with it in our generation the church is not sure to be damaged.

We think we can help these reverend persons to understand "the reason why." They don't profess to have any new doctrine to teach, and what they say seems less the obnoxious part of their proceedings than what they do. It is their love of symbolism and ceremony—of the traditional and antiquarian element in the rites of the Church—which raises these scandals. Now, the ordinary every-day mass of people don't understand the refined considerations which lie at the bottom of such displays; but they do see the general resemblance between them and the rites of the Roman Church; they know that clergymen who begin with such things often end by being converted to Popery; and their alarm—when genuine, as it is in many cases—is certainly respectable and excusable. Besides, the British middle class is not of a symbolic and antiquarian turn itself; it is eminently prosaic, matter-of-fact, and business-like, and apt to think ceremony puerile, unless when it has been bred from childhood to respect it. But such forms as are followed by men like Mr. Lee in worship are not familiar to the public; they have been long disused in this country; their original

meaning is forgotten, and the question whether they ought to be revived is surely a question for each congregation. If, as is sometimes the case, a congregation likes such things, let them have them by all means: but, when they are distasteful, why on earth should they be forced upon anybody? It is a duty to enforce—whether they be popular or not—great truths, but surely forms are matters of taste, and to be decided upon by those for whose benefit they are got up. The Queen dispensed at her coronation with her champion, and saved a respectable country gentleman from the risk of making himself ridiculous in that capacity. Not but what her Majesty had a right to the services of Mr. Dymoke of Scrivelsby if she had chosen; but that is the exercise of her good sense, and, with due consideration for the manners of the age, she dispensed with them. There is a time for all things; and if this is time when the mass of churchgoers don't want more ceremony than has been common for the last half-dozen generations, why force them to have it? Why rouse the latent Puritanism which has already shown itself to be the deepest influence almost in modern British life? We put it to the common sense of the party. We don't stoop to the railly and bigotry of what was called the "religious newspapers" on such questions. We simply make a matter of prudential reasoning of it—not for the sake of the offended public only, but for that of the Church of England, which is endangered and disgraced by those who provoke so much enmity to its name. If Mr. Lee or Mr. anybody does not find congregations manageable, let him leave them alone. Let him set up on his own bottom, like Mr. Spurzon, and fight the battle of tradition to the death. Don't let him disturb an ancient parish, and make it a focus of disorder, for the sake of a few (not vital) principles, which it may be more dangerous to propagate than it is dangerous (allowing them some value) to neglect.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN AND PRINCE CONSORT, with the junior branches of the Royal family, are enjoying themselves in their Highland home.

ON SUNDAY MORNING a young woman of eighteen, unidentified, was observed to deliberately walk from the bank of the Serpentine into the water until she had become entirely immersed. She was drowned.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE FLOWER-SHOW came off on Wednesday and Thursday with great brilliancy.

M. BLONDIN, the foolhardy tight-rope walker, has crossed Niagara with "his agent" on his back.

MR. M'CHRISTIE, revising barrister, will open his court for the revision of the list of voters for the City of London on Monday, the 19th inst., at eleven o'clock, a.m. The learned gentleman will sit in the Court of Common Pleas, Guildhall.

A NEW DRINKING-FOUNTAIN has been set up in the wall of the Greycoat Hospital, Westminster, by Robert Stafford, Esq.

TWO FINE YOUNG WOMEN, who had left a reformatory, after running away from home, were suffocated the other night while sleeping on a brick-kiln at Hammersmith.

MRS. DAVISON, of Eccleshall, who gave birth recently to three boys, on Sunday last attended with them at the Independent chapel to have them christened. They were severally named Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. At the close of the service a collection was made on behalf of the mother and offspring.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA has unanimously agreed to give £500 to any person who will introduce five pairs of live full-grown salmon into the colony.

THE MELON HAS BEEN REMARKABLY ABUNDANT THIS YEAR IN FRANCE. One little village in the south of France—Cavaillon, in the neighbourhood of Petrarch's favourite Vaucluse, has sent forth this year no less than five millions and a half.

A SHOCK OF EARTHQUAKE has been felt at Rome, but it was more perceptible in the districts of Transtevere and the Vatican than in other parts of the city. At Norcia, a little town of Umbria, on the frontier of Naples, there was a violent shock, and it caused terrible disaster.

GUTTA PERCHIA has of late been applied to the wheels of carriages at Berlin, and the consequence is that no noise is occasioned by such vehicles.

THE REMAINS OF LEIGH HUNT were interred in the family grave at Kensal-green Cemetery, on Thursday, September 1. The funeral was a strictly private one. The mourners were Mr. Thornton Hunt, Mr. Henry Hunt, and their sons, Mr. Cheltenham, son-in-law of the deceased, and the physician to the family. The coffin bore this inscription:—"James Henry Leigh Hunt, died August 28, 1859, aged 75."

AN EXHIBITION took place last week at Lyons of a new apparatus invented by M. Rigolier for stopping a locomotive at the top of its speed almost instantaneously, and there is every probability of its being employed upon all the lines in France.

THE PIEDMONTES GAZETTE announces that Commander Florent de Gilles, Councillor of State to the Emperor of Russia, has sent to King Victor Emmanuel the sum of seventy-five Russian gold imperials (1546f.) for the relief of the Sardinian wounded.

MR. CORBEN'S ELECTION EXPENSES were not large! Mr. Mellor, the election auditor for the borough of Rochdale, has issued a statement of the charges, and the total amount was only £38 0s. 6d.

MR. EXCELLENCY MAJOR-GENERAL SIR HENRY C. RAWLINSON, K.C.B., the newly-accredited Minister to the Court of Persia, has left for his post, accompanied by Dr. Dickson, attached to her Majesty's legation at Teheran.

MR. ALFRED TENNYSON, the poet laureate, arrived at Lisbon a few days since; and, after a short sojourn in Lisbon, repaired to Cintra.

THE TIDE IN THE RIVER, running unusually strong, has carried away the Crystal Palace Steam-boat Pier at Battersea, and it now remains under the arches of Vauxhall-bridge.

AN IMPORTANT ADDITION TO THE SHIPPING ACCOMMODATION at Swansea is now just being completed, and on the 23rd instant there will be opened extensive new docks.

THE ARMOUR OF MIDDLE VESTIVALI, in the part of Romeo, is of aluminium. It only weighs four pounds, and cost 16,000fr.

THE LADY BATHERS AT ABROATH have been much annoyed lately by a man who persisted in watching them from the shore. They bribed a boy to steal his clothes while he was bathing himself, and thus put him in an awkward fix.

CAPTAIN DRAYTON, of the Royal Artillery, announces a work to prove that "Great Britain has been, and will be again, within the tropics."

THE MASON AND CARPENTERS of Barnstaple have commenced a movement to obtain a reduction of their hours of labour, from ten hours and a half to ten hours per day, censing at five o'clock on Saturdays.

DR. SMITH, RESIDING AT BAWDSEA, in Suffolk, completed his 109th year last month. He enjoys excellent health, has a good appetite, and in the fulness of his spirits expresses a belief that he shall live for some years to come.

A CONSERVATIVE BANQUET will be held on the 15th instant in the Mote Park, Maidstone. The chair will be taken by Earl Stanhope, and the invitations include the Earl of Derby.

THE GENERAL-ADmirAL, with the Grand Duke Constantine on board, sailed from the Motherbank for Cronstadt on Wednesday morning.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF COOLIE IMMIGRANTS introduced into Martinique from the French possessions in India, &c., between the years 1853 and 1858 inclusive, was 1477. The average ratio of mortality was 2.54 per cent.

FIRE, by which the lives of three persons were sacrificed in a very awful manner, occurred at four o'clock on Wednesday morning in the Waterloo-road, a few doors beyond the South-Western Railway Station.

THE FIRST STONE OF A NEW PIER was laid at Swanage, Dorsetshire, on Monday, with much ceremony.

THE FRENCH MINTS during the reign of Napoleon III. have coined to the amount of 2,770,864,775 francs in gold, and 176,901,231 francs in silver.

TO FREE A TURNIP FIELD FROM CATERPILLARS, according to the *Sussex Gazette*, turn in a drove of ducks when hungry. "Five ducks to an acre are sufficient."

In addition to the fifty wounded soldiers and sailors employed as "commissionaires" in London, twenty more have been taken on Liverpool and Manchester, and it is hoped, in the course of the autumn, to extend their services to all large cities.

A HOINED OWL, supposed to be about a hundred years old, has just died at Arundel Castle, the seat of the Duke of Norfolk.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

"SPEECH," says Carlyle, quoting from the German, "is silvern silence golden;" but there is no small quantity of speech which is not even "silvern," and not a little silence that is certainly not "golden." At Devizes, in Wiltshire, there has been held the anniversary meeting of the "Bear Club," over which Mr. Richard Penruddock long presided. The talk was about the defences of the country, as it is now at all our provincial gatherings, and Mr. Long gave the meeting his views upon the subject with great confidence. He thinks we ought to have a larger military force, but he has no confidence in volunteers. His idea, in his own words, is this:—"In Prussia every man above twenty years of age is compelled to serve, and he should like to see the same system adopted in this country." Now, can we say that the silence in which Mr. Long excogitated this idea would be aptly described as "golden," or that speech in this case is "silvern"? I should say rather that the silence was leaden, and the speech brazen. Yet Mr. Long is a Legislator; he represents 387 inhabitants of the important borough of Chippenham, or rather half represents them, for the burden of representing Devizes, was received by the House of Commons. This was a great oversight: let me then supply what was wanting in his report. "Gentlemen," he should have said, "you did me the honour to elect me to represent your opinions in Parliament, and I can assure you that I have most sedulously attempted to perform this duty—in season and out of season; but I am sorry to have to report that my efforts have not been well received by the House, but, on the contrary, whenever I have risen I have been met with shouts of 'Oh! oh!' uproarious laughter, and indescribable noises. And once, when I was speaking upon church rates, and showing how the French Revolution was caused by the want of poor-laws in France, and how a similar revolution may be expected in England if we abolish church rates, the laughter and cries were so loud that the thread of my argument was broken, and I was obliged to sit down. Why I am thus received, and not with the silence and attention which ought to be given to the representative of so important a place as Devizes, I cannot say; but I mean to persevere, and hope to have to report a greater degree of success when next we meet." Something like this Mr. Griffiths ought certainly to have said; and I expect his thanks, and the thanks of his constituents, for this supplement to his speech. Captain Gladstone, the brother of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the other member for Devizes, and Mr. Sootheron Estcourt, spoke at this meeting; but neither of them said anything worthy of comment. In the House the gallant Captain never speaks. Mr. Estcourt speaks much, and says little.

Thus much about the *sayings* of members of Parliament. I will now report what another member has been *doing*. At Beaumaris there has long been a charity school, supported by voluntary contributions, the principal subscribers being Sir Richard Bulkeley, the member for Beaumaris, and his lady. They subscribed about one twelfth, I believe, of all the money that was raised. This school was managed nominally by a committee, but, as is usual in provincial towns, the real managers were the clergy; and, of course, they managed it in their own way—to wit, they passed such rules and exacted such observances that the dissenters could not avail themselves of the advantages of the school. Now, Sir Richard Bulkeley is a Liberal, and this practical exclusion of the children of dissenters—who in Beaumaris constitute nine-tenths of the population—greatly annoyed him, and several times he remonstrated against this bigotry, but with no avail; and so, one fine morning, as the schoolroom, being built on his ground, was legally his, he quietly locked the doors and took away the keys. Since then, however, I believe, he has restored the keys, and has adopted the better plan of withdrawing his subscription and giving it to another school which is to be set up upon a more liberal principle, and for which he is, at his own expense, building a schoolhouse. This movement by Sir Richard has caused no small stir in Beaumaris, and has greatly added to the worthy member's popularity. The clergy say they did not exclude dissenters, nor did they by any formal law; but, if you were to proclaim a feast for all, and provide nothing to eat but pork, would not that be excluding the Jews?

I will now give you another Welsh incident, near where I am writing. A fisherman, on one of the dull days last week, went forth to fish, and for a long time caught nothing; but, just as he was getting tired, he hooked a stunner. Away it ran, and for more than an hour and a half it led our sportsman a pretty dance, and more than once threatened to depart and take the line with him; but the angler was equal to the occasion, and at last landed his take, when he found that it was a beautiful salmon, at least 19 lb. weight, and was hooked, not by the mouth, but—by the tail. I did not see the thing done, but I have seen the man that did.

A theatrical riot, only to be paralleled by the well-known row apropos of the respective merits of "fiddle-de-dee" and "fal-de-ral-tit," so graphically described by Ingoldsby, has just taken place among the usually quiet and phlegmatic frequenters of the Hamburg opera. It would appear that, in the ballet introduced into the second act of "Robert le Diable," great things were expected of the performances of Mdlle. Casali, and no sooner did she appear than one of the "supers" on the stage forgot that bearing indicated by his cavalier's costume and moyen-age armour, and deliberately rested his lance against the "wing," drew forth a pair of green spectacles, wiped them with his handkerchief, placed them across his nose, and, crossing his arms, proceeded calmly to view the dance. This was perceived by some of the audience, and a terrific clamour arose, in the midst of which Mdlle. Casali retired, but the "super" remained firm. The audience became perfectly infuriated, and proceeded to such acts of violence that twenty of the ringleaders were seized, and punished next morning with fine and imprisonment.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

Those papers in the new number of *Fraser* which will attract the greatest general attention are a review of "Idylls of the King," a notice of the new series of "Friends in Council," the continuation of Mr. Frederick Laurence's story of "Sword and Gown," and an article entitled "Much Ado about Nothing," in which Mr. Cole's recently-published life of Mr. Charles Kean receives the severest castigation. The review of the "Idylls," though coming somewhat late, is genial, kind, and scholarly, the best bit in it being the comparison of Tennyson with Wordsworth:—

Because of his close sympathies with nature, Tennyson has frequently been compared with Wordsworth; but a comparison must rather tend to set forth the difference than the likeness between them. They are very unlike. Wordsworth is diffuse, Tennyson is compact; Wordsworth's meditation is still, philosophical, and serene; Tennyson's is swift, agitated, and rousing. Wordsworth withdraws himself into the silent recess and contemplates the quiet face of nature, till he gathers peace: Tennyson invests her with his own passion. Wordsworth's is the constant rumination, the still devotion, the brooding thought; and the tendency of his works is soothing and elevating, rather than stirring and penetrating: Tennyson heats the imagination, kindles the quick sense, and leaves the mind of his reader strained to the highest possible degree of tension.

The connection between the various stories is also very cleverly worked out, and the nature of the doctrine of retribution as illustrated by Shakespeare (*Hamlet*), Dante (*Francesca di Rimini*), and Tennyson (*Elaine* in the volume under notice), when crime brings down its heavy penalty, making the life of the innocent the sacrifice, is put with much force and originality. The notice of the new series of "Friends in Council" is written in the very spirit of the book itself—quaint, kind, and attractive, doing more than justice to the author under notice, and insensibly attracting attention to itself from its earnestness, talent, and genial warmth of laudation. There is perhaps no more perfect essayist on our press than the gentleman who writes in *Fraser* under

the title of A. K. H. D., and who in the happiest manner combines a pleasant, lazy, most readable style with honesty of thought and sincerity of purpose. Mr. F. Laurence's reputation, already set unquestionably high by "Guy Livingstone," will be increased by "Sword and Gown," his story now in course of publication, for while he has shaken off that overweening love of swindom which somewhat marred his first book, the new tale has more backbone of plot and interest, and he preserves that quaint mannerism of marginal comment and by-the-way illustration which stamped his original attempt. Moreover, he knows society thoroughly, knows it and has been of it, and writes of it as a member, in contradistinction to a new surface-skimmer of it.

Except by the *Saturday Review* (which will be different from every other publication, and, as Mr. Spurgeon said of St. Paul and Martin Luther, will "go on its own hook"), every newspaper which has noticed Mr. Cole's "Life and Theatrical Times of Charles Kean, P.S.A.," has denounced it as one of the most objectionable and repulsive triumphs of toadyism ever yet sent forth from the press. But the severest onslaught, the most ruthless mincing of this unhappy work, has been reserved for the critic in *Fraser*, who has brought to the task his sharpest scalping-knife, and deliberately, and in the most artistic manner, flayed Mr. Kean, Mr. Cole, and all apertaining to them. The dissection is so scientifically performed that it is worth while to show each operation. Here we have

MR. CHARLES KEAN.

To proclaim their own genius and virtues in the market-place, however matchless these might in their own estimation have been, has not hitherto been considered quite the right thing for actors to do, any more than for other people. Mr. Charles Kean thinks otherwise. "The public must not only admire him in their own way, they must also be taught *how and why* to admire him in his. They must learn from himself how supreme he is in all the phases of his art; how he has triumphed over cabal, and prejudice, and opposition; how Garrick, and Kemble, and Young, and Edmund Kean, and Macready, all very good in their degree and for their time, must kick the beam when weighed against himself. By himself also must they be told how dutiful a son, how admirable a husband, how priceless a friend, how bountiful a benefactor, the great "restorer of Shakespeare" can be amid all the overwhelming toils of his artistic career. Mr. Kean's reputation is not to be left for a surviving generation to settle. That might be dangerous; so he prudently determines to be canonised in his own time, and even to deliver his own eulogium at the ceremony. Not content with supplying the miracles (of genius), he pronounces, by anticipation, the verdicts of posterity upon them, provides the incense, and arranges the hymns. His hunger for applause transports him "beyond the ignorant present," and, having no misgivings himself of his right to an immortality of fame, he "sees the future in the instant," and tastes the luxury of the panegyrics which, if a future age does not, it at least ought to pronounce over his tomb.

Next under the scalpel we have

MR. COLE.

Mr. Cole in his preface condemns autobiography, because, as he says, "human weakness interferes with a true delineation." A stranger, or an enemy, he continues, cannot be looked to for a faithful portrait. "An honest friend is most to be depended on;" that honest friend, in the present case, is of course Mr. John William Cole; but in assuming this character for himself this gentleman forgets that, in addition to the motives which sometimes mar the delineations of even the most "honest friend," a great disturbing agent exists in his case in the fact that he has for many years been, and still is, a salaried official of Mr. Charles Kean! Mr. Kean may not be exacting, and Mr. Cole may not be servile; but it is not in human nature to think independently or to speak frankly in such a position. Power on the one side, and adulation on the other, will always be suspicious. The praise of an equal or an adversary may have some value. The fulsome homage of a stipendiary is worse than worthless, and provokes contempt alike for him who gives and him who stoops to accept it. Parasites and flatterers have in all ages called themselves "honest friends;" but the base can varnish their degradation only to themselves.

If Mr. Cole were merely an "honest friend" of Mr. Kean, why, it may well be asked, was this book ever written? What was the story to be told? What the outcry for it? Who wanted to be furnished with a chronicle of Mr. Kean's engagements, of the newspapers which have written him up, of the good-natured notes of admiring friends, of the sums his engagements netted, of his expenditure on his revivals, of his losses by one and gains by another, of his donations to charities, of his domestic virtues, of the outrageous puffs, all stamped with a most suspicious family likeness, with which his reputation has of late years been bolstered up in the journals? And yet, in so far as Mr. Kean is concerned, these volumes are barren of every other theme. If Mr. Kean be vain enough to think that such matters are of the slightest interest to mankind, an "honest friend" would have done his uttermost to undeceive him. But Mr. Cole's mind has apparently become so identified with Mr. Kean's that it is now merely its echo. The absorption of the lesser spirit by the greater is complete. Messrs. Kean and Cole are mortal Siamese Twins. The one does the thinking and feeling, the other the writing. Mr. Kean pulls the strings, the puppet Cole obeys their every jerk, and pitiful beyond relief is the exhibition which ensues. Such a display of preposterous egotism and vanity has fortunately hitherto been reserved for the privacy of the social circle or family hearth.

After an extraordinarily ludicrous comparison of Mr. Charles Kean and Mr. Vincent Crummles, the writer goes on to notice the quarrel between

MR. KEAN AND MR. DOUGLAS JERROLD.

In Douglas Jerrold he encountered a hornet, whose sting was neither little nor weak. Its poison rankled; and accordingly Mr. Cole devotes a chapter to showing that the satirist wrote not from honest conviction, but from personal spite. With this view, a long correspondence is quoted, which only proves that Mr. Kean, the manager, had business relations with Mr. Jerrold, the dramatist, which were mutually unsatisfactory. Mr. Jerrold never was an admirer of Mr. Kean, as the columns of *Punch*, from the first, bore persevering witness; and he wrote quite as bitterly before Mr. Kean bought his plays as after they quarrelled. Unquestionably he does not shine in his correspondence with Mr. Kean. He is in the awkward position of a man paid in advance for work overdue, who retorts in sarcasm, when he had much better at once have repaid the advance by the cheque which ultimately closed their intercourse. But what has the public to do with matters of this kind? Mr. Kean never could have supposed that in buying Mr. Jerrold's comedies he was also buying Mr. Jerrold's right to express his opinions on Mr. Kean's acting and management. Yet, if this were not implied in the compact, where is Mr. Kean's grievance? Mr. Jerrold knew more about theatres than he did about most of the subjects on which he wrote with so much pungency, and to so little practical purpose. He could recognise a good actor as well as any man of his time, and Shakespeare was one of the few things for which he had a genuine reverence. Mr. Kean accorded with his ideas neither of a great actor nor of a true illustrator of the poet. He was also aware—for who was more completely behind the scenes than he?—whence came those gusts of eulogy which attended every movement of the manager of the *Princess*.

In the concluding passages of this article the writer takes care to point out that it is against Mr. Kean individually, and not against the theatrical profession, that his invectives are directed. A more bitter condemnation than this has seldom been printed:

If this book concerned only Mr. Kean and his biographer, we should have passed it by with a smile of pity at the insatiable vanity of the one and the obnoxious sycophancy of the other. But it is an offence to literature, and a scandal to the profession to which Mr. Kean has the honour to belong. Here is a gentleman who has thriven far beyond his deserts, who, by a series of lucky accidents and skilful manœuvres, has risen to a most prominent position, and whom the world generally may, therefore, be disposed to accept as a type of actors of the higher order. Not content with the fame of a man who has not always fallen to the lot even of unquestionable histrionic genius, he thrusts himself before the public through the agency of one of his own officials, and by his mouth proclaims himself and his wife as the most gifted beings who have ever adorned the British stage. For this purpose and for no other could these volumes have been written. This is the burden of the tale throughout. Not the noble art which Mr. Kean professes to illustrate, not the high aims which are open to and will always be pursued by real histrionic genius, not the inculcation of a faith in the stage as a potent agent for enlarging the sympathies and instructing the taste—with no thought of these things has this book been written, but only to extat the individual at the expense of his class, and to inculcate the public, if possible, with his own pre-estimate of himself. For this Mr. Kean is to be blamed through life. For this he has had his reward. But he has overshot the mark. He has written his own condemnation. The dexterous manager and the clevered egotist will henceforth eclipse the clever actor. Apt as the player's vocation may be to engender a habit of self-reference, the history of our best performers, and the character of many living ornaments of the stage, demonstrate that it does not detract their self-respect. In this particular Mr. Charles Kean must not be accepted as a type of his class. It is easy to imagine the infinite scorn which such a book as this would have excited in men of the stamp of the Kembles or Young—not to speak of more recent

names. The profession has many enemies; but no assault from without could inflict one tithe of the injury which the overweening vanity of so conspicuous a member of it is likely to occasion. Has evidence been wanting of Mr. Kean's audacity to interpret to learned men the art creations of our master-poet, it is furnished in these volumes. A nature so self-engrossed and so inclined as to lay claim to the whole could never expand to the proportions of an *Obelisk* or *Monolith*, or grasp the wide domain of poetic beauty which is inclosed in "A Midsummer Night's Dream," or "The Tempest."

Blackwood has a true September number, smacking of pigeon-hunting and absence of standard contributors. "Horse-dealing in Syria, 1851," is painfully funny, full of elephantine playfulness, but giving no new views of Eastern life, and flippant without being smart. There is an interesting paper on voluntary and involuntary actions, founded on Mr. Bain's book on the Emotions and the Will, in which are adduced curious instances of certain powers of volition, such as moving the ear and actually stopping the beating of the heart; and an admirable and highly-interesting article on the nautical strength of England. "The Journal of a Cruise on the Langaniwa Lake" is insufferably heavy; and some verses, "Jersey to the Queen," would disgrace the *Family Herald*.

In the *Englishman's Journal* there is a very interesting report from the Association for Promoting the Employment of Women, and a curious bit of life-experience under the title of "Infant Seamstresses." A biography of the celebrated Margaret Fuller is commenced in this number.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

The prospectus of the new managers of the ST. JAMES'S THEATRE (Messrs. F. N. Chatterton and Willett) has been issued, and is promising. Drama, farce, ballet, and burlesque are to be the staple attraction. Among the company are Mr. Leigh Murray, Mrs. Charles Young, Mrs. Frank Matthews, Miss Murray (from the *Princess*), Miss Arden (from the *Adelphi*), Miss Kate Hickson (of whom report speaks highly), and Miss Lydia Thomson, a danseuse, whose performance in a pantomime at the Haymarket some years ago created a great sensation, and who has since earned many laurels in the principal Continental cities. The interior of the house has been thoroughly rearranged, a new gallery and dress circle built, the pit greatly enlarged, &c. The prices of admission have also undergone revision. The theatre will open on the 1st of October, with a new drama and a burlesque on the subject of "Virginius."

The ADELPHI reopening is announced for the 21st inst. Mr. Watts Phillips' drama will not be immediately produced. Mr. Byron will write the Christmas piece for this house; he is also engaged to write the opening of the pantomime for the *PRINCESS*.

Notwithstanding the dulness of the season there have been capital houses at the STRAND, where also a successful novelty has been produced in the shape of a most ludicrous farce, by Messrs. A. Mayhew and Sutherland Edwards, called "The Goose with the Golden Eggs." It is needless to describe in detail the plot, which turns upon the loss of a goose supposed to be studded with a pocket-book containing £500, and its quest by two rascally attorneys. The little piece is full of verbal jokes and broad fun, and produces roars of laughter.

THE FLOGGING QUESTION.

THE Lash is a great public topic just now. First of all, the lash in the Army. Last week five men belonging to the garrison at Woolwich made their escape from custody while awaiting their trial by court-martial, and, having forced the luggage-room door (secured by a couple of locks and one strong bolt), in which the baggage of absent officers is deposited, they broke open the chests, and, habited in private clothes, succeeded in effecting their escape. At the present moment the number of prisoners is unusually large; and to avoid the chances of similar escapes the sentences pronounced by the daily courts-martial are ordered to be executed without delay, and in most cases are put in force on the following morning soon after daybreak. In consequence the infliction of the lash is of almost daily occurrence at Woolwich. On Thursday morning the available force of the dépôt brigade were assembled at six a.m. for "punishment parade," to attend the flogging of three men belonging to their corps who had been tried by a court-martial held on the previous day, at which Lieutenant-Colonel Talbot, R.A., was president, and had been convicted of simple desertion, which signifies without re-enlistment. For this crime they had been condemned to suffer the punishment of fifty lashes and eighty-four days' imprisonment each, and to be branded with the letter "D." Two only were, however, brought forward on Thursday, the sentence of the third having been for some reason postponed to a future day. These two men had been discovered absent without leave, and had been brought back to garrison by the police. The first man, named Green, bore his punishment, as stated by an eyewitness, "like a true soldier;" but the second, named Davis, a young recruit, protested his innocence of the crime of desertion, bellowed and screamed for mercy, and supplicated Colonel Talbot and the medical officer and others who were present to have compassion on him, or he should die. His back was covered with a mass of large, red, inflamed boils, which bled profusely at every stroke, and reddened the ground under his feet, upon which the cat was ordered to be withheld for a few moments, when, finding that his punishment was not at an end, he gave vent to exclamations for mercy, and partly succeeded in delivering himself by force from the straps which bound him to the halberds. The punishment was again ordered to be continued, when at every succeeding stroke his cries and exclamations were most lamentable, insomuch that officers and men swooned away at the sickening spectacle, and had to be carried into the open air. One officer and upwards of twenty non-commissioned officers and men long in the service fainted, and others stopped their ears and closed their eyes, lest they, too, should become unversed, and be subject to the reproach and ridicule of their comrades. Upon which the *Times* remarks as follows—contrasting Chatham with Woolwich:—

Notwithstanding that the lash is but seldom resorted to, the discipline of the troops at Chatham is, perhaps, not equalled, and certainly not excelled, by those of any other troops in England, although there are seldom less than 5000 men belonging to various branches of the service quartered at that garrison. This result has been brought about by the prompt measures resorted to by the Major-General commanding for maintaining discipline among the troops under his command. When released from military control the conduct of the men is equally praiseworthy. In order to provide amusements for the troops the Major-General has sanctioned healthy games, space in the barracks being provided for amusement; while a large room has just been appropriated at Brompton Barracks, in which the men can practise single-stick, fencing, and boxing, and reading and news rooms are also provided. The result of this effort is that the troops are kept from debasing pursuits, which in other garrisons lead them to desert and commit crimes which render them amenable to courts-martial.

But flogging is rather in the ascendant in public academies too, and "Tom Brown's School Days" has made tutors insolent, as it has (we are credibly informed) injured many private schools. What do our readers think of the following story?— Lieutenant Vouuden, Q.M. of the 4th Dépôt Battalion, now stationed in the Canterbury Barracks, some eighteen months since, placed his only son in the King's School, under the superintendence of the Rev. George Wallace, the then head master of the institution. Mr. Wallace has since resigned the appointment, and the present head-master has been in charge of the school rather over a month. On Thursday, the 25th ult., Lieutenant Vouuden sent a note to the Rev. J. Mitchinson, requesting that his son might leave the school at 11.30 for the day. No answer was returned, but the head master told the youth that, as he so recently had leave, he could not allow him to go then, and, the boy imagining that he meant during the morning's duties, he left school at the usual hour, and on reaching home found a message that he was to follow his father, who had gone to the Canterbury races. This request he accordingly complied with. For so doing, the next morning Master Vouuden was called before the head master, and, in the presence of the assembled school, was told that he had been guilty of a direct act of disobedience, for which he must be flogged at half-past four. This was communicated

to Lieutenant Vouuden by his son, and the following correspondence has ensued:—

Barracks, Canterbury, Aug. 26.

Mr. Vouuden presents his compliments to the Rev. J. Mitchinson, and begs to state that his son was absent from school yesterday afternoon with his leave and approbation, and therefore requests that no punishment may be inflicted on account of such a day.

To which Mr. Mitchinson replied:—

The King's School, Aug. 27.

My dear Sir,—Your note has caused me considerable embarrassment. I was glad to find, as I before imagined, that your son was alone responsible for his deliberate disobedience to my orders; otherwise I should have declined to receive him any more as a pupil. I write these few lines now to state to you most distinctly that your son must either submit to the punishment I have publicly prescribed for him; or, if you object to that, that he must cease to be a pupil of the King's School from this afternoon. I must beg the favour of an immediate answer; and if I do not hear from you I have no course open to me but to inflict the punishment. I am, dear Sir, faithfully yours, J. MITCHINSON.

Lieutenant Vouuden then wrote:—

Barracks, Aug. 28.

My dear Sir,—In reply to your note just received, I much regret that I cannot sanction the punishment you have thought necessary to inflict on my son, he having had my leave and approbation to be absent from school. . . . Should you therefore still feel obliged to enforce the punishment, however much I regret it, I must say that you must carry out your threat, and expel the boy from the school, as I cannot sanction his being punished from no fault of his own. I am, dear Sir, faithfully yours, THOS. VOUDEN.

And the head master closed this part of the correspondence as follows:—

The King's School, Canterbury, August 26.

My dear Sir,—I was very sorry to receive your note this afternoon, as it left me no alternative but to inflict what, considered in itself, is a most disproportionate punishment to your boy's offence, but what was inevitable, or my authority was at an end. You, as an officer, will thoroughly feel this. Allow me, however, to observe that I did not, nor should have thought of, punishing the boy for the faults of others, however great I might consider them to be. I punished him for deliberately setting at nought my distinct refusal to grant him the holiday—a refusal of which you were not even conscious (it appears) when you left word for him to follow you, or, I feel quite sure, the breach of discipline would never have taken place. His offence was wilful disobedience and defiance of my orders. . . . I am truly, genuinely sorry for the boy, who owes his punishment (a most severe one) to his friends in this case, and not to himself. I lose in him a pupil, who, though troublesome enough at times and somewhat restless under authority, showed the signs of a good, open, manly disposition. Though his departure from the school is inexpensive and irrevocable, I do not in any sense regard it as an expiation, nor shall I lose any opportunity of removing such an impression from others, or of preventing (if it were likely at any time) its injuring his prospects in life.

I am, dear Sir, faithfully yours, J. MITCHINSON.

Lieutenant Vouuden sent a further letter, expressing regret that Mr. Mitchinson did not answer his note, to which want of courtesy the misunderstanding was attributable, and stating that he should lay the correspondence before the Dean and Chapter. This Lieutenant Vouuden accordingly did, and he received the following answer:—

The Dunciad, Canterbury, Monday, August, 29.

My dear Sir,—I have laid the correspondence which you sent me before my resident colleagues in the Chapter, and I beg to inform you that they agree with me in thinking that Mr. Mitchinson was entirely justified in the course which he took in the matter. With regard to the publication of the correspondence I must leave you to act as you think most desirable.

I am, my dear Sir, faithfully yours, HENRY ALFORD, Dean of Canterbury.

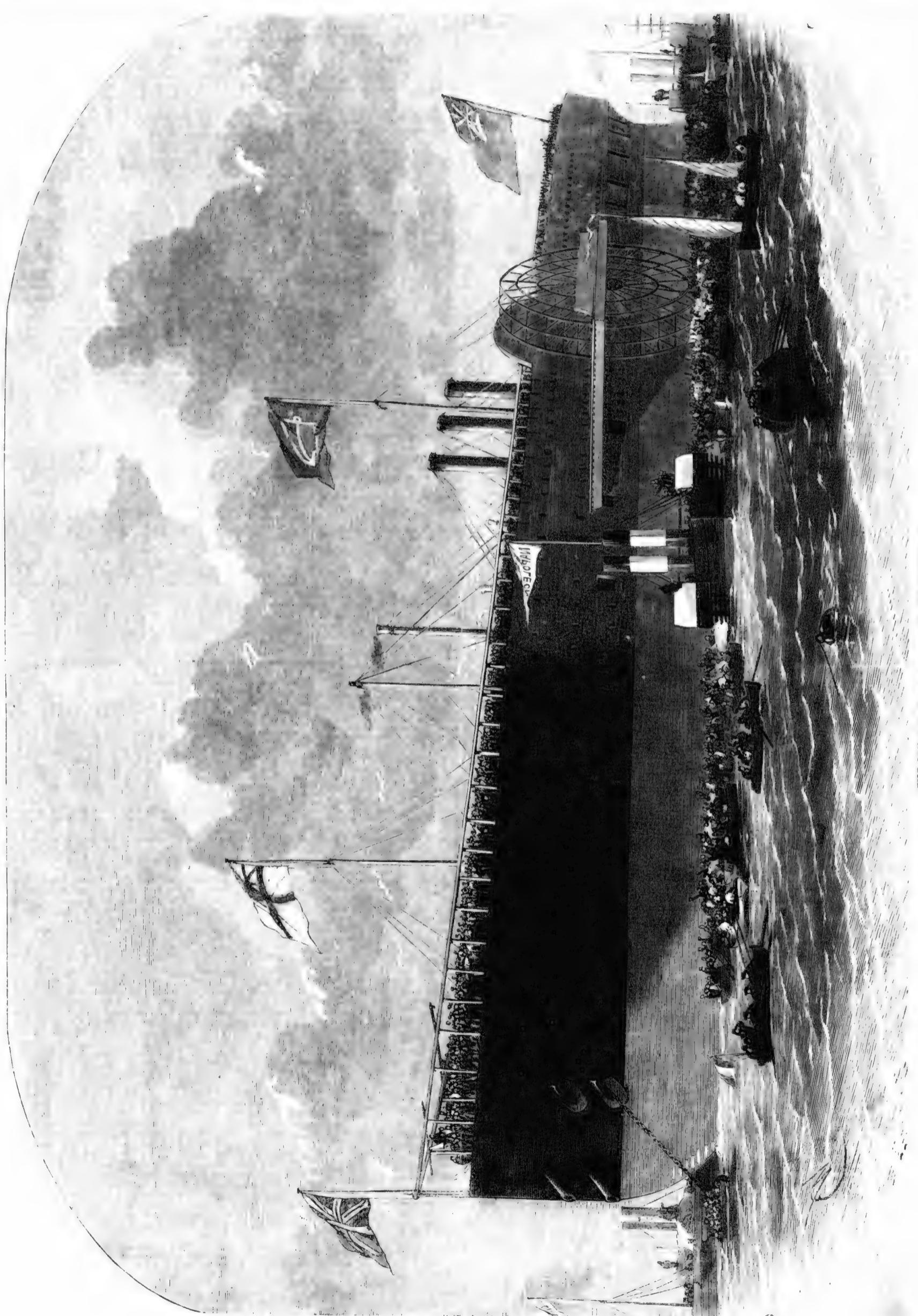
It is also stated that flogging is getting more into use in our gaols. The *Times* prints a letter giving a milder version of the Woolwich affair, stating "that the man's condition was not so bad as was described; that the number of men who fainted was not twenty, but perhaps eight or ten; that they were probably not old soldiers, but young recruits, and so forth." But we should not be surprised if these discussions were to lead to the abolition of flogging in the army. At Canterbury, for their private Prand, of the 90th Regiment, was flogged the other day. After receiving twenty-five lashes he fainted, but, on his recovery, the remainder of the punishment was inflicted. The unfortunate man was conveyed to the hospital in a helpless state, and still lies very ill.

THE CAMP AT ALDERSHOT.

On Saturday last, at noon, a large body of men from various regiments stationed at Aldershot Camp were placed upon what is termed "fatigue duty" upon the eminence near the quarters of General Knollys, and contiguous to the great well and to the gun taken from Sebastopol. These consisted of portions of the 60th Rifles, the 16th and 47th Foot, &c. At twelve o'clock General Knollys, Colonel Kennedy (Quartermaster-General), the Adjutant-General, Captain Gordon, of the 47th, and many other officers, arrived to direct the operations of erecting and striking tents, but especially some upon a new and improved principle, which appear capable not only of resisting the violence of the strongest gale of wind, but also of giving comfort and accommodation vastly superior to the bell-shaped tents now in general use. After various experiments, so that the men might acquire facility both in raising and lowering these tents, one was left standing in an elevated and exposed spot, in order to test its stability against the power of the wind. Many of the men who were not on duty, who were present, inspected it, and were heard to exclaim, "Had such tents been in use in the Crimea, many of our gallant fellows' lives would have been saved!"

Another of the tents was by order conveyed in a wagon to the north camp (where the 2nd battalion of Grenadier Guards are stationed under canvas), where the same course was pursued by men of the latter corps, and in presence of the afternoon parade. This tent will be occupied for a time by about sixteen or eighteen men, in order to prove its applicability. Some of the officers were heard to express most favourable opinions, particularly as to their use in warfare. The size for troops is about fourteen feet square, which will easily contain sixteen men with knapsacks and musket, and the shape, being pyramidal, allows the wind to pass over instead of beating against it. The angles are strengthened from the head by one-inch rope, to which the canvas is bolted, and, being secured by strong iron pegs to the ground, constitute its principal support. A porch at either end forms entrances, each of which can be closed for protection from the wind, but at other times giving a thorough draught of air as well as having a superior system of ventilation in the roof secured against the entrance of rain. This tent, with the porches, has an area of 324 square feet, and the whole, including pole and every requisite, can be packed into two valises, each weighing about 50 lb., and can with rapidity be erected, when required, by even two men. The men can lie with their heads in the centre, where the ventilation is good, instead of at the sides against the canvas when wet, the present custom in the bell-tent. It can be used either with or without a camp-stove and cooking apparatus, in which case a light zinc pipe can be substituted for the centre pole. By means of this stove the tent is kept warm in the winter, and, from the system of ventilation, perfectly cool in the summer.

A MURDERED CHILD FOUND IN A WATER-BUTT.—Mr. Wakley, coroner for West Middlesex, has held an inquest to view the body of a male child found in a water-butt, in an advanced state of decomposition, by Mr. Patten, in the kitchen of his premises, Upper Boston-street, Marylebone, on Wednesday week. He deposed that his family, and others in the house, who had regularly partaken of the water from the butt, had frequently complained of the bad smell and sickly taste of the water, and the insatiable which it created. On Wednesday morning (week) his wife took sick from the smell and bad taste of the tea or coffee, and was unable to drink it, whereupon he went to the water-butt with the intention of cleaning it out, when, to his surprise and consternation, he discovered the body of the child floating on the surface of the water. He immediately called in a police-constable, who removed it to the workhouse. The medical evidence proved that the body must have been in the water some hours at a time. It had received a fracture of the skull two inches in length, which he emphatically stated must have been produced during life, and was sufficient to cause death. After a short deliberation the jury unanimously returned a verdict of "Wilful murder" against some person unknown.



THE GREAT EASTERN STEAM-SHIP OFF DEPTFORD.

OAK STRUCK BY LIGHTNING AT FAWSLEY NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

DURING a thunderstorm which passed over Fawsley on the 5th of August a fine oak, the property of Sir Charles Knightley, Bart., was struck by lightning and shivered in the remarkable fashion shown in our illustration. A cowherd who happened to be in a hovel some 180 yards from the tree, and who was dashed violently against the wall by the shock, witnessed the appalling incident. The whole of the trunk was stripped of its bark, fragments of which were thrown upwards of fifty yards. The butt, now literally split into ribands, is about 10 feet in circumference, and, prior to this injury, was in a remarkably sound condition. Since the occurrence the oak has been visited by hundreds of persons; every one, both far and near, being anxious to see this wonderful effect of the electric fluid.

FASHIONS FOR SEPTEMBER.

DURING the last fortnight the refreshing coolness of the atmosphere has produced a change in the general character of outdoor costume. The black lace shawls and the mantlets or scarfs of lace or muslin, which were so highly fashionable during the hot weather, are now giving place to cloaks and pelisses of silk. The large, full black silk cloaks which many ladies persisted in wearing during the height of summer, are now perfectly in season.

The fashionable pelisses are made of black or coloured silk, in some instances of the same silk as the dress; but this latter style is less a fashion than a *fantastic*. In Paris, however, it is decidedly gaining ground. A fashionable Parisian modiste has just completed, for an English lady of high rank a dress and pelisse of one material—viz., violet silk of a very bright, rich hue. The skirt of the dress has one broad flounce, headed by five bouillons. The corsage has a broad ceinture fastened in front of the waist, and the sleeves are formed of one broad frill, headed by bouillons. The pelisse is edged by a flounce and a bouillon. The flounce is covered by a fall of black Chantilly lace, the lower edge of which just touches the head of the flounce on the skirt of the dress. A round pelerine of silk is covered by one of black Chantilly lace.

In ordinary outdoor costume dresses of mohair are very generally adopted, especially by young ladies; and a scarf of the same material, fastened down at the back by a bow of ribbon, is not unfrequently worn.

At the seaside hats seem to be universally preferred to bonnets—the latter, owing to their small size, affording no protection to the face either against sun or wind. These hats are usually of straw, either white, brown, or grey. At the French watering-places these seaside hats are very showily trimmed with coloured ribbon intermingled with black. The combination of black, with pink, green, yellow, or mauve, is highly fashionable.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

Figure 1. Dress of Albert-blue Silk.—The skirt has four flounces, each surmounted by a narrow, quilled frill: all are puffed at the edges. The corsage is plain, high to the throat, and confined at the waist by a long ceinture of silk edged with a very narrow plissé. The sleeves

are open in front of the arm, where a small piece is cut out. They are edged all round with a narrow, quilled frill, surmounted by a heading. Small lace collar, and under sleeves of muslin, with turn-up cuffs trimmed with lace. Cap of white tulle covered with spotted black tulle. The trimming consists of quilling of white blonde intermingled with small rose buds. In front of the forehead there is a bow of black ribbon, and at the back a bow of the same with long flowing ends.

Figure 2. Robe of Silk, having a grey ground figured with very broad green stripes.—The front of the skirt is trimmed with three rows of those circular ornaments, in the form of cockades, which the French modistes call *choux*. Those in our illustration are formed of black and white lace and a small rosette of green ribbon in the centre, and they graduate in size, diminishing from the bottom of the skirt to the waist. The sleeves are very wide, and open in front of the arm. They are lined with white silk, and the corner in front is turned up and fastened by a *chou*, similar to those on the skirt. The bonnet is of black and white tulle, with trimming of flowers, and strings of broad green ribbon. Collar and under sleeves of worked muslin.

Fig. 3. Dress of White Pique.—The skirt has thirteen narrow flounces, edged with black velvet. The corsage is quite plain, not pointed at the waist, and has a *ceinture* of black velvet, fastened in front by a gold buckle. Collar and under sleeves of worked muslin. The bonnet is of crape, the front white and the crown rose colour; the latter is covered with a *fauchon* of black lace, having long lappets, which are fastened under the chin, forming double strings. The strings of the bonnet are of rose colour ribbon. On one side there is a bouquet of roses intermingled with small black curled feathers.

Fig. 4. Dinner Dress for the Country.—Robe of white Swiss muslin,

consist of a personal inspection of one of the most important of the dependencies of the British Crown. It is again positively asserted that the Prince will visit Canada in the course of next year, and that his tour will be made under the direction of no less a personage than the Secretary of State for the Colonies. We sincerely trust that this rumour will prove correct, for not only would such a visit to the other side of the Atlantic prove profoundly gratifying to the Canadians, but it would also naturally tend to expand the views and enlarge

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the mysteries of military evolutions by attending the reviews

which take place in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh. It is evident that his illustrious

parents are anxious that he

should receive that varied

kind of education which is

likely to fit him for his high

destiny; and we are glad to

find the rumour repeated that

the Prince of Wales

appears to be leading a pleasant, though not idle, life in the

Modern Athens. Now we

find him studiously engaged

in one of the University

lecture-rooms with Dr. Lyon

Playfair, or, in company with

the same distinguished chemist, making himself acquainted with some of the

most interesting and important of our manufactures.

Again, he is to be seen taking

part in some manly exercise,

or initiating himself into the

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drew her off with apparently the greatest ease, and away she went on her journey.

Opposite Greenwich Hospital her own paddles and screw were put in motion, which caused her to move with somewhat greater rapidity. At this time the dense mass of persons who had collected in the hospital grounds, on the river side, and on the opposite shore, broke into a hearty cheer. Salutes were fired, and the band on board responded by playing "Rule Britannia" and the National Anthem.

At Blackwall, where it was supposed the greatest difficulty would be experienced, owing to the sharp bend in the river, the Great Eastern rounded the point with as much ease as an ordinary-sized steamer.

Near Woolwich the big ship was met by a first-class American clipper, which looked like a dwarf beside her. The Yankee crew appeared astonished at her vast proportions, and greeted her with a hearty cheer. At a quarter past nine she passed the Royal Dockyard at Woolwich, with both paddle and screw engines at work, and here another ovation from the thousands assembled greeted her progress.

Once past Woolwich, all the difficulties were over. The tugs continued their assistance, but the vessel was so perfectly under control that while the tide was against her their assistance might have been easily dispensed with. As it was, however, the tide turned and set with the ship when the vessel was at Long Reach, off Purfleet. An immediate halt was therefore necessary, as in turning a few sharp corners with the tide the vessel's whole broadside would become exposed to the full force of the stream, and not all the tugs in the river would prevent her going ashore at once. It was therefore determined to anchor off Purfleet till Thursday morning. A single one of Trotman's anchors was let go at the bows, and the course of the ship, which it was said no anchors could ever hold, was at once checked, and the Great Eastern actually began to swing round in the Thames as much under command as a cutter. For the single instant during which she swung and remained broadside to the stream she seemed literally to bridge across the river. There was room enough for her to swing, but not a foot to spare. The vessel came round to the full force of the tide, and her chain cable tautened up out of the water for a moment like an iron bar, but the single anchor never yielded an inch from the spot where it was first dropped. On Thursday the Great Eastern continued her way down the river, and reached the Nore at noon.

The necessity of our going to press early prevents us accompanying the great ship further on her voyage, but we purpose next week to illustrate her progress more completely.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

In the annual "Judicial Statistics" in the Parliamentary volume for last year, recently published, a mass of useful information is afforded. The number of the criminal classes at large amounts to 134,922 in England and Wales. These live by the plunder and vices of the community—to-day in wasteful extravagance, to-morrow in want. Each spend less than £25 yearly, although they cost the public double that sum. This amounts to £7,746,100, which, added to the charges for the expense of offenders in gaol, shows the criminal classes entail an annual expense upon the community of not less than £10,000,000! The constabulary force in England and Wales consists of 26,256 persons, which is an increase on the preceding year. The total cost of such police last year was £1,417,019 3s. 7d. There are 138 detective officers. In September last the criminal classes numbered 160,346, and of that number 131,922 were at large. Of the criminal classes mentioned in September there were 101,657 males and 58,689 females. The youth of both sexes form a large proportion, being 18,807, or 13.9 per cent. There are 3122 houses of receivers of stolen goods, 2402 public houses, the resort of thieves and prostitutes, besides other houses of a similar description, numbering in the whole 7096. There are 7915 brothels and houses of ill-fame, and 6987 tramps' lodgings, making 15,120 houses of bad characters. The number of felonies committed in the year ending September last was 57,868. In the same period 30,458 persons were apprehended. Last year there were 55,472 persons charged with "drunkenness," and of that number 51,861 were convicted. The assaults committed were 83,086 in number, and of these 49,873 were convicted. A larger number of offences were dealt with summarily under the Criminal Justice Act and Juvenile Offenders Act. Proceedings were adopted against 24,636 common prostitutes, and the number at large was 23,760. There were in the year 1858 as many as 260,290 summary convictions. Last year there were 19,846 coroners' inquests, being a decrease on the preceding year, when the number was 20,157. The costs of the inquests last year were £58,973 11s. 9d., or on an average of £2 19s. 5d. each inquest. Last year 13,216 persons were sentenced, and of that number 53 were capital convictions, of which 16 were for murder. The number executed was 11, in each case for murder; they were all males, and four of them foreigners—making in the last three years 8 foreigners out of 41 persons executed.

INFANT SEAMSTRESSES.—A LONDON INTERIOR.

It was a small and very wretched apartment, containing a bed and one chair, the seat of authority. There was no table, but there were three low forms, which were perpetually tumbling over, and on these forms were seated eleven "little girls." The four on the front form could hardly any of them have been six years; one of them was "going of five." The four behind were about seven, perhaps, and there was one very well-behaved girl on the hindmost seat who might be ten, and two others a year or two younger. The eldest girl had evidently all the fixing and all the responsibility, and was the only one among the number that had money remuneration; she also had the "taking in." They were "on slopes," the little things on the front form doing the hemming, while the others were steadily at work on "band," and gusset, and seam." Perfect silence was the rule, but the little hemmers were continually transgressing it. They all seemed in the utmost distress; one declaring, with many tears, that somebody had made her lose her needle; the accused protesting that she "didn't make her lose it, for she lost it her own self, and so that was a story that she had told." Then another complained that a neighbour had said "she hadn't done the most, and the neighbour wouldn't measure." The poor old woman had scarcely pacified them, when the little girl "going of five," a perfectly cleanly, loveable, kissable little creature, burst forth with a most grievous lamentation, because somebody behind had said that her "father was transported, and he wasn't transported, because he had gone in a bootiful sipp." Hereupon the old woman threatened to "bang" the offender, and she confirmed the story of the "bootiful sipp." But the wicked girl continued to nod persistently at the little thing looked over her shoulder. Then followed another burst of grief, for "she had said so again." And now the old woman proceeded to execute her threat, to "bang" the tormentor. The operation was quite an orthodox grandmotherly affair, after which there was a temporary silence. The little morsel, we were grieved to see, had hemmed nearly a yard of calico in the neatest manner, but all along there were crimson specks of blood, showing how sadly the little finger must have been pierced. In recompence for her industry she was permitted for a few moments to contemplate the perfections of a new little pocket-handkerchief, on which was an inscription and illustration of "Hoop de dooden do," and then her little eyelids drooped. Oblivion was gently stealing the image of the grotesque figure on the handkerchief, and the image of the torturing shirt, and withdrawing all the dreary surroundings of misery. The expression of petulance and pain relaxed; she was asleep. Intelligence of this fact was instantly reported, but the old woman graciously permitted her a few minutes, declaring that she was worth two of the informer, and would get her task done first. For the making of the shirt of which this baby did the hemming—a whole day's hard work, of course—and which had also expended on it another day's cruel labour on band, and gusset, and seam, the old woman received two-pence-halfpenny; or, in the phraseology of the trade, the little girls were on the slopes at half-a-crown a dozen. The mothers were out in the City—most of them at least—at various kinds of employment, and were glad to have their children taken care of and taught to sew besides. The old woman made them each a mug of warm coffee during the day, and took care they didn't eat all their victuals at once. They hadn't half enough to eat. We inquired how the good woman could find room for several additional little hands? She explained that some of the older girls were going to work with their mothers; that the "hemmers" would be promoted to "band," &c., the little sleepers to be one of those so promoted. She wanted two or three "little uns for the hemming, but they were always so slow at first, they did nothing but adjust their thimbles and lose their needles; they were more trouble than use at first;" however, they soon got to be useful, though it appeared that some unprincipled mothers withdrew them as soon as they began to be useful and could thread their own needles.—*English Woman's Journal.*

139,139,699 PERSONS were conveyed by railways last year, against 139,008,888 in 1857. The receipts from passengers amounted to £10,376,309, against £10,592,798 in 1857. The receipts from goods, cattle, minerals, parcels, &c., in 1858, amounted to £13,580,440, against £13,581,812 in 1857, which represents £1458 per mile in 1858, compared with £1524 per mile in 1857.

DR. SMETHURST'S CASE.

DR. SMETHURST has been reprieved during the Queen's pleasure. With reference to the floating talk about his brother's "private" interviews with him, that gentleman wrote thus to the *Times*:—"Intelligent persons know that prison regulations do not admit any private interviews with any prisoner in my brother's position. He is in a room in company with two officers, to which room I have no access, and outside this room are placed two chairs, one for me and the other for the Governor, and above our heads, when seated, is a small wire-perforated window, through which we converse in fair, open, loud language. I have sought no favour, nor passed nor received any secrets. Nor has the Governor or any officer proffered any favour. They have all done their strict duty as such, but with a courteous, civil disposition."

Before the reprieve Mr. Henry B. Sheridan, M.P., having been requested by the friends of Dr. Smethurst, attended at the Home Office with a petition to the Queen, signed by Mary Smethurst, the prisoner's wife. Mr. Sheridan urged upon Sir G. C. Lewis the deficiency of evidence against, and numerous arguments in favour of, the prisoner; and introduced the wife of the prisoner, Mary Smethurst, and Mrs. Smith, the mistress of the boarding-house at Bayswater in which the three parties resided. The statements which these two ladies made were listened to with the greatest attention and patience by the Secretary of State, and various points were cleared up and explained which had been left in mystery at the trial. Mr. Waddington was present during the interview, which lasted an hour and a half.

It would seem that the reprieve was quite unexpected by the gaol authorities, and that the prisoner himself, although he still continued to exhibit a confident demeanour, evidently had some misgivings as to the result. It was expected that if a reprieve was granted it would not be delayed beyond the middle of the week; and when Thursday and Friday arrived and no communication was received from the Government, the hopes of the prisoner and his friends became fainter, and it was the general impression up to the afternoon of Friday that the sentence would be carried out. So strong was this impression upon the minds of the officers of the prison that on Friday morning orders were given that the scaffold, and the drop, and all the apparatus connected with the gallows, should be carefully examined to see that it was in proper order to perform its dreadful task.

During the early part of last week Dr. Smethurst appeared in extraordinary spirits. He is watched day and night by two of the warders of the prison, who take it by turns to perform this duty. He converses with these men in the most friendly manner, and has frequently joked upon different subjects. With the chaplain, the surgeon, and every official connected with the prison he has always appeared most anxious to converse upon the subject of his alleged crime, arguing, with great apparent earnestness and sincerity upon the folly of it being supposed that he should commit such a dreadful murder for the sake of obtaining a few hundred pounds, when he had enough for all his wants; and besides which, the deceased would have willingly given him the money if he had asked her to do so.

The Rev. Mr. Jessop, the chaplain of the prison, remained at Horse-monger-lane Gaol considerably longer than his ordinary time for attendance on Friday, in the event of any communication arriving from the Home Office, that he might make it known to the prisoner, and he left the prison under the full impression that no respite would be sent that day. Shortly afterwards, however, a messenger arrived, bearing the reprieve, which was addressed to the Governor, and Mr. Keene immediately proceeded to the prisoner's cell and communicated to him the welcome intelligence, at the same time explaining to him that it was not a respite for any particular period, which would still render his ultimate fate uncertain, but that the effect of a reprieve during her Majesty's pleasure was that his life would certainly be spared. Dr. Smethurst did not betray so much emotion as might have been expected under the circumstances, but he shook hands with the Governor, and in an earnest manner asserted his entire innocence of the crime for which he was condemned to die, and added, "What a dreadful thing it would have been to die an ignominious death for a crime that was never committed!"

There is very little doubt that the friends of the prisoner will exert themselves to procure a total remission of punishment, on the ground that as the Government, by refusing to allow the capital sentence to be carried out, admit that there are doubts of his guilt, the prisoner ought to have the benefit of those doubts, and be altogether discharged from punishment. But then comes the question of bigamy, and perjury in getting the second license; and the other question, whether the imprisonment and anxiety Dr. Smethurst has suffered for a crime of which he stands (legally) acquitted, may not be taken as punishing him sufficiently for the crimes he has committed?

THE CHARGE OF POISONING A WOMAN IN POPLAR.

ON Tuesday George Frederick Royal, aged twenty-seven, a shoemaker, who is also known by the name of Fred. Reynolds, and Regnold, against whom a coroner's jury returned a verdict of "Wilful murder" in June last, was brought before Mr. Selfe, at the Thames Police Court, Stepney, on remand, charged with poisoning Zipporah Wright a few weeks after she had become a mother, by administering to her a quantity of cantharides.

The prisoner absconded from Grove-street, Poplar, where he was living with the deceased, on the 3rd of June last, the day previous to her death, and immediately proceeded to Upper Sydenham. There he found employment in the workshop of Mr. Clemmow, a respectable boot and shoe manufacturer in the High-street, where he was apprehended on the morning of Monday, the 29th ult., by police-sergeant Best, of the R division. The antecedents of the prisoner are anything but good. He deserted his wife and two children about eighteen months ago in Kensington, and a reward was offered for his apprehension by the parochial authorities. About the same time he induced the deceased, Zipporah Wright, a young woman of respectable family and connection, to reside with him as his wife until the day preceding her death. Since he has been at Upper Sydenham he has been paying his addresses to a young woman, to whom he represented he was a single man.

At two o'clock in the afternoon the prisoner was arraigned in the felons' dock, before Mr. Selfe, and the Court was crowded to excess. Dr. Lethby was not present till late in the day, and the only medical evidence taken was that of Mr. Webb, of the Poplar Union. His evidence was that he was of opinion at the time that the symptoms of the deceased were either those of cold or some irritant medicine. Mrs. Allen, the landlady, and Mrs. Stubbs, the charwoman, described the symptoms of the poor woman.

In answer to questions by Mr. Selfe, Mrs. Allen said that the prisoner took a great many things with him. The things in the prisoner's room were in the same state when the police found them as he left them. Mr. Bowdler, the second clerk, asked the witness if she ever saw the prisoner give the deceased anything during her confinement, or in the course of her illness? Witness: No, sir; I never saw him give her anything. I heard that he gave her milk and also gave her water. On the forenoon of Friday, the day before she died, I told the deceased she was aware she was dying. She said, "Yes." I said, "Did you ever take anything to hurt you?" She said, "No, not anything." I said, "Did ever any one give you anything that you thought hurt you?" She said, "George gave me some coffee—it was very bitter." I said, "What did you take it for?" She said, "He made me take it because there was nothing else in the room." I said, "Be sure you are right, because the innocent might be blamed if anything was wrong." She said many times, "May God forgive him!"

The inquiry was adjourned to Friday.

THE SUNDAY BANDS.—The concerts in the parks last Sunday were the last of the present season. The music was enjoyed by very large and perfectly orderly audiences, the greatest number assembled being in the Regent's Park.

GREAT GENEROSITY.—The licensed victuallers of Bath have offered to erect a drinking-fountain in that town. A committee has been appointed to consider the most eligible site.

THE LEEDS MURDER.

LATE on Saturday night information was furnished to the Leeds police which led to the apprehension of a man named Charles Normington, the supposed murderer of Mr. Richard Broughton, at Harehills, near Leeds, on the 6th ult. It will be remembered that the murderer or murderers took a German-silver watch from the person of Mr. Broughton, and that this watch was offered in pledge about two hours after, in the first place at the shop of Mr. Topham, pawnbroker, and in the second instance, and successfully, at the shop of Mr. Barras, in Dyer-street. At the latter place the man pledged the watch for 4s. Nothing more was heard about the watch until Saturday night last, when a young man named James Smales, a collier, from Whitwood, near Normanton, presented himself at Mr. Barras' shop, and tendered the ticket for the watch. Mr. Barras at once took Smales to Mr. English, the chief constable at the police-office, to whom Smales made a statement. In consequence of the communication Mr. English went over to Whitwood on Sunday morning, and saw John Fawcett and Andrew Batty, both miners. They stated that on the Monday after the murder they met a young man in Castleford-street, named Charley Normington, and adjourned with him to a beer-shop, where they had some beer together. Normington stated, in the course of conversation, that he was a miner in search of work, upon which Fawcett agreed to employ him as his "hurrier" in the pit at Whitwood. Normington went down into the pit, both on Monday and Tuesday, but only worked during part of each day. On the Monday night he offered to sell a ticket for a watch—a German-silver watch—to James Worcester, and on the Tuesday night he did succeed in selling it for 5s. to Smales. Normington told his companions that the watch had been previously in pawn for 26s.; and he informed another witness, Betsy Fawcett, that he had offered it on the Saturday night to Mr. Topham, but that that gentleman declined to advance him as much money upon it as he (Normington) asked. Mrs. Dixon, the woman with whom Normington lodged at Whitwood, observed him on one occasion in the act of washing handkerchief, but said when she approached him he appeared perfectly confused, and thrust the handkerchief, wet as it was, into his bosom. She then saw that the water in which he had been washing was highly discoloured. His shirt also bore several marks, as if it had been stained with blood, and hastily and inefficiently washed afterwards in cold water. On the Thursday morning Normington disappeared, leaving behind him the shirt in question, and this is now in possession of the chief constable of Leeds. Normington told his Whitwood companions that he had previously worked at the York Colliery, in York-road, Leeds, which is only about a mile from the scene of the murder. He is a native of Bradford, but has been residing for some years in Leeds. Normington also told the Whitwood people that he left Leeds on the evening of the murder, walked over to Wakefield, and slept there on the Saturday and Sunday nights, and thence proceeded to Whitwood on the Monday.

The Leeds magistrates offered a reward of £25 for the apprehension of the suspected man, and Mr. English, chief constable, visited several collieries in the neighbourhood of Sheffield, and on Monday telegraphed to Leeds to state that he had apprehended Normington in that neighbourhood.

On Tuesday the prisoner was examined in the Leeds Townhall, before the Mayor, and the above facts deposed to. An additional witness, Thomas Burton, a boy thirteen years of age, who works at Messrs. Lassey and Wilcox's colliery, Stoneyrock, near Harehills-lane, stated that between six and seven o'clock on the morning of the murder Normington and another man went to the pit. Normington had a thick stick with him, which he said would do to hit any man on the way. The stick produced, and which was found in a ploughed field close to the spot where Mr. Broughton was attacked, was, witness was almost sure, the same stick that Normington had that morning.

After the examination of one or two unimportant witnesses the prisoner was remanded until Friday next, at half-past ten o'clock.

THE RELIGIOUS DISTURBANCES AT ST. GEORGE'S EAST.—Last Sunday there was a renewal of the disturbances which have for some weeks past disgraced the parish of St. George's East. At the close of the afternoon sermon, which was preached by the Rev. Hugh Allen, nearly the whole of the congregation, numbering upwards of 2000 persons, remained in the church in order to be present at what is known as the Rector's service, which commences at four o'clock. It was so clear that the main object of the congregation was disturbance that Mr. Thompson, the churchwarden, advised Mr. Lee not to proceed with the service, and this recommendation the rev. gentleman at once acceded to. The churchwarden after leaving the vestry ascended the steps of the reading-desk, and said, "I announce to you that the four-o'clock service to day will be suspended." Some hisses followed, upon which the churchwarden said, "I wish it to be understood that if I detect any one creating a disturbance I will order him into custody." A person near the altar said, "What will you do with him?" The churchwarden: "I will take care he is severely punished." Finding there was to be no service the assembly struck up, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow," which they concluded notwithstanding the churchwarden's remonstrances. On their way from the church to the rectory-houses some of the choristers were severely maltreated by the mob, who broke into the Rector's garden. Mr. Thompson, the churchwarden, had, however, preceded them, and managed to eject them. There has been a vestry-meeting, and a good deal of correspondence in the *Times*, about these "disturbances." The Bishop of London has written a long letter to Mr. Howell, the vestry-clerk of the parish, requesting that Mr. Lee may preach no longer (he not being licensed in the diocese), and proposing that the vestry and the Rector should jointly submit a case to his Lordship for his arbitration.

SAVED FROM DROWNING.—A young woman, named Turner, maid servant to a Mrs. Bennion, of Wrexham, has just saved the life of a young lady in a very gallant way. The young lady was bathing at Rhyl, in Wales, and was suddenly seized with the cramp; her companions were too timid to render help, but the young woman in question happened to be passing, and at once rushed to her assistance, and in a short time succeeded in bringing her safely to land. This was done at the risk of Miss Turner's own life, for she had been strictly forbidden to bathe by her medical adviser, having just recovered from a severe illness.

THE METROPOLIS MAIN DRAINAGE.—Preparations are being made for the construction of the outfall sewer in connection with the main drainage of the metropolis, as well as the necessary reservoir, pumping-engines, &c., at Crossness, opposite Dagenham Reach. The works now to be executed will commence at North Pole-lane or Norman's-road, in the Greenwich-road, and will extend eastward under and along Greenwich-road, London-street, Rotherhithe, and Trafalgar-roads, the Greenwich and Woolwich Lower-roads, and Albion-street, under the town of Woolwich; thence passing under and along the Plumstead-road, through the Arsenal at Woolwich, to Griffin Manor-way, where they will cross the Plumstead and Erith marshes, and proceed to their termination on the bank of the River Thames below Crossness, at a point adjacent to the Artillery practice-grounds opposite to Dagenham Reach on the north bank of the river. The reservoir and pumping-station, with the necessary engines and machinery, will be constructed and erected on land in the occupation of Mr. Thomas Flint. The ground required will be 17a. 2r. 33p., which the Metropolitan Board of Works under the Act intend to purchase of Sir Richard Tufton, the owner. Two air-shafts will be sunk in connection with the line of sewerage—one in Sun-street, and the other in Powis-street, Woolwich.

THE INDUS FIRED AT.—A mysterious and unprecedented circumstance occurred during the homeward voyage of the *Indus*. As that vessel was passing Tariqa, a fortified Spanish seaport town in the Straits of Gibraltar, at about 9.30 a.m., on the 27th ult., a gun was fired from the fort, of which no notice was taken, when a second was fired, and a large round shot came bounding along the water and sunk within about fifty yards of the ship. Had this shot been fired with one or two degrees more elevation it could not have failed to have fallen on board the steamer, and nothing but its having struck the water several times prevented it from striking the hull right amidships as it was. The passengers were all looking over the side at the town at the time; the British ensign was flying at the peak; it was beautiful weather and the sea was remarkably smooth. It is to be hoped that an explanation of this extraordinary act will be given by the Spanish Government.

THE LONDON MECHANICS' INSTITUTION.—Among the late donations to the fund to relieve the trustees and purchase the lease of the buildings of the London Mechanics' Institution are the names of the Duke of Cleveland, the Marquis of Breadalbane, and Lord Cranworth. The early example of that philanthropic and benevolent man the late Lord Murray (Lord of Session) was noticed at the time, and now Lady Murray sends £50, and Miss Burdett Coutts £100, to the account at Ransom and Co's. In the City Messrs. Hanbury have received 100 guineas, recently voted for the purchase of the lease by the Corporation of London.

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